THE Renowned Hiſtory OF FRAGOSA King of ARAGON; and His three Sonnes:

OR,

The mirrour of Magnamity, and Cupid's Conqueſt.

SHEWING,

The ſtrange Adventures, heroical Exploits, and admirable Atchievements, of the three magnanimous Princes; DOROSA, FERARO, and PLEUDIPPO.

Together with the worthy preſidents of Love, in the three vertuous and unparalel'd Ladies; ALBINA, FLERMIA, and LUCIBELLA.

Right pleaſant for the Aged to drive away melancholly, and profitable for Youth, to behold the often variations of the fickle world.

In Two Parts.

Written, by W. C. *Gent.*

London, Printed by E. ALSOP, over againſt the Upper Pump in Grubſtreet. 1656.

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THE FIRST PART OF THE Renowned History of Fragosa and His three Sonnes.

CHAP. I.

How Fragosa King of Aragon fell sick, and of his will and bequests to his three sons, Donvallo, Dorosa, and Pleudippo; and to his lovely daughter Flermia.

There reigned sometimes in the renowned countrey of Aragon, a King called Fragosa; who for the exquisite qualities wherewith the graces had endued his noble minde, was justly reputed the onely mirrour of that age: He was so courteous, that with the gentle Trojan he desired to be such a King to others, as himself would willing be a subject to: A merciful Lycurgus; pardoning offences used against himself; but an austere Cato in punishing bides: A warlike Scipio, dauting the courage of his enemies; and his long experience and knowledge in civil government, making him a politick Nestor: and that he might be a perfect pattern of all perfections, nature had adorned him with such an Augustus like majesty in his countenance, as in-

warely pierced the exteriour eys of all of worth: surpassing that of Ulisses, when he was cast out of the bosom of Neptune into the kingdoms of Alcinous; or equal with that of Marius, terrifying the prendest Cimbrian that durst enterprise any treachery against his person. Yea, to conclude, such was the fame of his valour, the report of his gravity, the honourable port of his majesty, his courtesie toward his subjects, and bounty to his friends; that it was doubtful whether he was more feared for his valour, loved for his liberality, or honoured of all for his due administration of justice and equity.

But as time setteth a period to all things, so deaths grisly messenger summoning this Aragonian Hector, he was by long sickness brought to that port, where he awaited his transportation to the Elisian shades. Therefore commanding his children to be brought before him, he in the presence of divers of his nobles, leaning his head on his hand and breathing out a vehement sigh, looking upon his eldest son, uttered these speeches:

Dear son, thou seest the paleness of my face, which is a shadow of my ensuing end, and my ghastly look is a figure of my instant woes: my grass is wasted, my grapes gathered, and I have nothing left but the skin of my flesh, and one only blast of all my life: Nature challengeth her due, therefore to thee must I leave my crown by succession; to thee I say Donvallo, must I leave my diadem and all the princely revenews of this thrice-renowned country of Aragon; thou being the eldest, and therefore most worthy by birth, having from thy youth been trained up in vertue, and so much the fitter to govern: If thou thinkest my son to enjoy thy fathers possessions, let his former vertues be a mirrour for thy future actions: if thou wilt preserve his crown and dignity, do not by cruelty obscure his liberality and piety: exercise authority in the behalf of others, but be willing to pardon injuries committed against thy person: contemn not thy inferiours, neither be thou proud of thy high estate;

for I tell thee my ſon, the lofty pine is overthrown with the tempeſt, when the low ſhrub ſtands ſecure in the valley; the greateſt ſeas are toſt with the blaſts of Eolus, when the ſmall rivers regard not his rage; and great Kings are by envy oft caſt out of their countries, when mean ſubjects peaceably enjoy their patrimony.

Behold my ſon, the number of my years is pourtrayed in my wrinckled lineaments, and in the multitude of my days are regiſtred the wily prancks of never-conſtant fortune. Hearken then Donvallo, unto him that is in the winter of his life; leſt thou making ſhipwrack of thy youth, ſink in the ſeas of adverſity in time of thy frofty age. Be careful for the renown of thy perſon, and preſervation of thy ſubjects: be courteous towards them, but not too familiar; Nimium familiaritatis contemptum parit: be merry, but not immodeſt; be chary of thy ſpeech, but not tongue-tied; hear much but ſpeak little; be valiant in arms, but not deſperate in actions, extreams is raſhneſs; omne nimium vertitur in vitium: follow the counſel and grave advice of thy elders, eſpecially theſe here preſent; which have been to thy father followers in proſperity, faithful in adverſity, and in both, dutiful and loving ſubjects: be not ſo ſuſpicious to miſtruſt them without cauſe, nor ſo light to credit others without proof; firſt try, and then truſt; let time be thy touch-ſtone, and firſt have good experience before thou make choiſe: regard not every one that beareth a friendly countenance; for I tell thee my ſon the ſmootheſt ſtream hath his whirl-pool, the ſower crab hath the ſhew of an apple as well as a ripe pippin, and in a friendly countenance is often times lodged much deceit: there is as well a Damocles to betray, as a Damon to truſt; as well a flattering Ariſtippus, as a faithful Lelius; and as well a ſubtle Sinon to deceive, as a conſtant Pilades to preſerve. And to conclude my exhortation, here once again I ſay (my ſon) direct thy ſteps as vertue commandeth thee: Be careful for the commodity of thy kingdome, and uſe

use all diligence for the preservation of thy subjects, so shalt thou not onely win the hearts of these present, and of all the rest of thy nobles and commonalty, but through their faithful assistance and wisdome, shalt rule in peace, without fear of thine enemies; govern without hatred of thine own people; and the fame of thy vertues shall stretch out it self unto the uttermost bounds of the whole earth: Otherwise I tell thee my son, as the sweetest wine turneth into the sharpest vinegar; and as that is a deep sea wherein is found no bottom; so if thou contemn the advise and counsel of thy nobles, thy overthrow will suddenly follow: they are miraculous friends, if they become not thine enemies; and friendly amity converted into friendly envy; of all hatred proveth the greatest; which by civil discord being once fired, with the stone Abeston will never be cooled.

Unto thy two brethren Donvallo; to Dorofa the eldest of the twain, I give the dukedome of Lorino, with all the palaces, edifices and stately buildings, together with all the revenues, profits and commodities thereunto belonging, to govern as a Prince in his own territories; without the contradiction or controulment of any. And I command thee Donvallo, that thou make no invasions into any of his possessions, franchises or liberties: but see that by thy help he be peaceably and quietly invested into the same: be unto him a sure refuge in all his adversity, and if at any time fortune lendeth her cloudy brow, shroud him as Galina doth her chickens, under thy eagles wings. And during the time of his minority and Non-age, I will that he remain in the custody of the earl Plancto, he to have the care of his education, and also to be principal collector of all the revenews arising out of the profits of the aforesaid dukedome: And also I will that thou cause to be paid unto him out of the exchequer of Aragon forty thousand duckets, for the use of thy said brother; within two moneths after my decease.

To thy youngeſt brother Pleudippo, I give the Caſtle and Town of Dorto; and alſo I will that there be paid unto him out of the treaſure of Arragon, full 50000 crowns: his bringing up I refer to the Marqueſs of Rino here preſent, he to improve both his Lands and Treaſure to the beſt uſe, until he ſhall accomplish the age of one and twenty years.

To thy ſiſter Flermia, I will that thou pay or cauſe to be paid, 40000. l. and that immediately after my deceaſe ſhe be conveyed to her Aunt the Queen of Poland, there to be trained up according to the dignity of her birth; and when ſhe ſhall attain to riper age, provide her of a husband worthy her eſtate and calling. Here pauſing a while, and ſending forth vapours of ſighs, he gave a Comma to his ſpeeches.

Then Donvallo ſtanding as one whom grief had made ſilent, with a pale look and ſtreaming down tears, at length replied in this manner. Dread Soveraign, and my moſt dear and loving Father, my love toward my brethren and ſiſter, is and ſhall be ſuch as my outward dealing ſhall be a ſufficient teſtimony of my inward meaning. I will not onely give them that which you my languiſhing Father do command; but I will exalt them ſo far as the love of a brother and the Kingdom of Arragon may by any means extend: they ſhal in no wiſe be eſteemed as ſubjects, or inferiours, but as my equal and fellow Princes. If any cold ſtreams of Fortune ingirdle them, I will not only love them as a Brother, but be careſull for them as a Father: their cauſe ſhall be my cauſe, their proſperity my comfort, and their adverſity as bitter as the laſt date of my days; Yea, I will live with them in ſuch a ſimpathy of brotherly affection, as the overdaring hatred of any ſhall not preſume to offer the leſt prick of injury to any of them. With this making a ſudden Apoſtropha, and caſting up his eys to Heaven, he uttered theſe ſpeeches. Moſt mighty and powerfull Jove, which knowest the inward intent, and underſtandeſt the moſt ſecret and

silent thought, let these my words be registred in the conclave of the Skies: If I fail in any of these my promises and protestations to this my Ancient and Reverend Father, whose white hairs are true Heralds of great experience, and whose vertues are recorded as characters of his Excellency; Rain upon my head showers of misery and let me be drenched in the deepest seas of distress; let me endure a Hydra of woes, a Chaos of vexations, yea, and to conclude, the extream of all extream sorrows.

When Donvallo had ended this his serious and solemn Protestation, Fragosa again calling himself in his bed, and having taken the Oath of his Son, for the performance of his will, and likewise of the Marquess and the Earl for the education of his Sons, he thought to have made a further exhortation: But such was the extremity of his passions, as clasping his hands together, and lifting up his eys, he committed his soul unto the Heavens; his face grew pale, his breath short, and his faltering tongue failed him, and thus with a small gasp he yeelded his last debt unto never satisfied Death.

CHPP. II.

How a day was appointed for the Coronation of King *Donvallo*; how the two other Brothers were carried by their Guardians to their houses Of *Donvallo*'s ill life; and of hatred between *Pallacia* (Concubine to *Donvallo*,) and *Dorosa*.

THis his departure, as it was most grievous to his Nobles, so it caused no small discontent in the hearts of all his Commons and inferiour Subjects; insomuch, that such mournings and lamentations before that time, was never seen in all the Countrey of Arragon.

His Funerals were by Donvallo performed with all the solemnities

ſolemnities that could be deviſed; and his Obſequies being conſummated, a day was appointed for the Coronation of their new King, which ſhould be about ſome ten days after. This being noiſed abroad throughout the whole Realm, procured again a generall applauſe after their late ſorrows.

In the mean time, Doroſa was by the Noble Earl Plauto conducted to his own houſe: and Pleudippo, being at that time about the age of ten years, was likewiſe conveyed unto his own Caſtle of Dorto, where the Marquels determined to make his abode during the Infancy of Pleudippo: Flermia was by Donvallo preſently imbarqued into Polonia; and having ſatisfied his Fathers Legacies, great Triumphs were prepared againſt the day of his eſtabliſhment, wherein all took their Oaths for their lawfull obedience to their new King.

All theſe things being perfected, and this day of expectation finiſhed, Donvallo to procure the further content of his Nobles, and to gain the generall good will of his Subjects, cauſed a Tourny to be proclaimed to continue for the ſpace of eight days: All which time, the King not onely entertained his Nobles, but alſo divers other ſtrange Princes, and great Eſtates, with moſt Royal and ſumptuous Banquetting, and all other Princely delights uſually had at ſuch honourable and famous Exerciſes. Many worthy feats of Chivalry were there acted, which (in that they belong little to the intended diſcourſe of our preſent Hiſtory) I pretermit with ſilence.

Now theſe days being ended, the King cauſed yet eight days more to be holden for other Courtly Paſtimes, as Wraſtling, Running, Leaping, Vaulting, Hawking, Hunting, Dancing, Sword-playing, and ſuch like. Yea, theſe ſports were applauded on all ſides, not onely with the Nobility, but even with all the Commons in general, with ringing of Bels, making of Bon-fires, Maſques, Pummeries, and Moriſcoes, with all kind of Muſick, ſtrange

Pageants and rare inventions, that might either delight the ear or content the eye: Yea, and to conclude, such was the excess herein used, as either in Arragon, or any other bordering Nations, before that time was never seen or heard. But as things without mean cannot continue, so these things had their end; the Tourneys are past, the sports are ceased, all took their leaves, and departed.

By this time the coffers of Arragon were well decreased, yet Donvallo had no intent any way to diminish his superfluous expences, but having given them Pils laxative, he now intended to make them vomit up their bowels; for as the fattest ground if it be not tilled bringeth forth nothing but weeds, so the sharpest wit (if it be not exercised) inclineth to greatest wickedness: and he having now the bridle at liberty, he let slip the reins of his affection to all dissolute living and impiety. As before he spent his treasures in Triumphs now he consumed his time in Taverns, neglecting wisdome, and wholly subjecting himself unto wine, and wantonness, yea, in such excessive sort, as though he had only purposed to have offered up his soul for a sacrifice unto the drunken God-head of Bacchus, as if he had been born to lift a pot, and not to lead a life, and to make Venus Altars smoke with the riches of Arragon.

Thus following his wanton and libidinous pastimes, he entertained such a crew of Curtezans, as if he had meant to make the Court of Arragon a publick Stew of all iniquity. Among this convent of cursed Concubines, was one named Fallacia, who (according to the old Proverb) had not her name for nought. This Fallacia being more beautifull then the rest (though not more honest,) and more witty (yet the more witty the more wanton;) this (I say) above all the rest was passing pleasing in the eys of Donvallo, and therefore his most dearly beloved. Thus hatched he in his brest, the Bird to pick out his own eys, the Viper to devour his kindred, and the Panther, which draweth towards her with fair spots and sweet smels, and then destroyeth.

This

This Fallacia conceived a ſpecial grudge againſt Doroſa the Kings brother: the reaſon was this. The King being in his progreſs lodged at the Earl Plauto's where Doroſa was brought up, where ſhe being among the troop of his Nobles, and the young Duke bearing her to be one of the chief Harpies that devoured his brothers vertues, the bewitching Circes that allured him to vice and the monſtrous Gorgon that of a man transformed him to a beaſt; made no ſemblance of friendſhip towards her; but ſeing come in his preſence, with a cloudy brow, diſcovered by his Lyon-like the true Map of Magnanimity, his face deciphering his anger, and his eys ſparkling diſdain: thus with a face full of diſcontent, and a Princely frown, he turned his back and departed, not coming forth any more out of his chamber until the departure of his Brother. Fallacia ſeing this (as a guilty Conſcience is prone to judge the worſt) bethought her, that if Doroſa ſhould live to mans eſtate, and come in account with his brother, ſhe might ſhut up her ſhop: She therefore (as there is no wickedneſs above the wickedneſs of a woman) fell to muttering of whole Armies of cogitations, ſummoning together all the Parliament of her damned ſenſes, how to bring a Doomſday upon this young Duke. Now envy having built a black Sepulcher of hatred in her breſt, and having laid the plot of her deceit, finding opportunity a kind Agent, ſet her wits on the Tenters to perform her peſtiferous ſtratagem in this wiſe.

One Evening, when the King meant to ſport himſelf with this Minion, and for this intent ſent for her into his chamber ſhe cloathed her ſelf in mourning attyre, yet painted her ſelf with all her bewitching drugs, which made her ſeem far more beautifull, although indeed ſhe was naturally indued with ſuch an excellent hue, as ſhe little neéded ſuch forged ſorcery. Being thus attyred, ſhe went to the King in all haſt, whoſe frail heart ſhe knew was fit with the war to receive any impreſſion: and coming in, behaved her ſelf with ſuch a grace, as procured in the King no ſmall con-

ten: yet noting her unaccustomed robes taking her by the hand, and embracing her in his arms, he fell to questioning with her, what the cause should be that she came into his presence in such sad attyre, which rather beseemed them that offered lamentations at the obsequies of their friends then them which came to solace themselves with their Lovers in such sweet delights. The King had no sooner uttered these speeches, but like a wily Serpent she streamed down her guilefull tears; (for women have two kinds of tears in their eys, the one of grief, the other of deceit.) These tears brought the King into such a maze, as for a while he sate as one with Medusa's head metamorphosed into a stone; which Fallacia noting, feigning as if she had swounded, she fetled her self betwixt his arms: Which the King seeing, he suddenly fell to rubbing her with his hands; which she feeling quickly came again to her self, fearing left her intended mischief should have been prevented by the comming of any. The King perceiving his Patient recovered, uttered these speeches.

Ah Fallacia, Fallacia, Oh my thrice beloved Fallacia, what discontent driveth thee into the depth of these passions? or what distress thus amateth thee with sadness? I protest, Fallacia, thou hast renewed more griefs in my heart, then there are pebbles on the Ocean brim, or shining stars in the houses of the Heavens. What, Fallacia, if there be any thing that thou desirest, thou shalt in no wise reap denial, if the whole Kingdome of Arragon may purchase the same: For rather had Donvallo live like a Hermit in the wilderness with roots, or like Diogenes in a tub with beets, then to remain the King of Arragon without his beloved Fallacia. Hath any man injured, or offered violence unto thy person, or otherwise ministred these pils to thy Stomack, which converteth thee into this Labyrinth of sorrow? If it be so, speak. I say, Fallacia, and I protest I will find a remedy, and the offender shall pay the price of his folly at so high a rate, as shall cost him his life, yea, though he be the second in

all

all the Kingdome of Arragon. With this again embracing her in his arms, he beſtowed on her many devout kiſſes.

Fallacia ſeeing the Prologue of her wiſhed Tragedy ſort to ſuch effect, purpoſing not to let the ball fall to the ground, proſecuted her intent in this wiſe. Dread Soveraign, and moſt renowned King, whoſe love I eſteem above all earthly treaſure, yea and much more then mine own life; no man hath any ways offered violence unto my perſon, neither is the leaſt touch of injury proffered unto thy dutifull and obedient handmaid Fallacia; much leſs can the deſire of any ſtrange inventions, heaps of treaſures, or houſes filled with all manner of riches, procure ſuch uncouth paſſions in the heart of thy beloved Fallacia: Fallacia knows her ſelf that ſhe enjoys not onely the fat and beſt good of all the Countrey of Arragon, but even the moſt mighty Monarch himſelf; what then can reſt to make Fallacia once to ſhew a mourn-full countenance?

But Donvallo, Oh my dear Donvallo, (with this ſhe offered him many of her alluring kiſſes,) it is a mighty ſuſpicion which throbbeth in my heart, a preſent ſign of a future calamity, which driveth my ſpirits into theſe unwonted ſorrows. Oh Donvallo, ſeeſt thou not the ſtubborn ſhew of thy brother Doroſa, and his unduti-full behaviour towards your perſon? how when your Majeſty, with your whole train of Nobles, were at the Earl Plauto's, he would not once come forth out of his chamber to take his leave of you, or any in your company? a notable Index of his future obſtinacy. Did you not alſo ſee in what eſtimation he is with the Earl, and divers of your Nobles? Yet not this onely was the cauſe of my grief, but a moſt fearfull dream which I had the laſt night: Wherein me thought I ſaw all the Nobles, together with thy two Brethren, in Arms againſt thy perſon, to deprive thee of the Soveraignty of thy Kingdome. From hence, I ſay, iſſued my grief; and the fear which I had to bewray the ſame, bereaved me of my wonted ſenſes for a time; which ſhould they at any time

come

come to pass, Fallacia should but even remain a sacrifice, to offer up her self at the shrine of her beloved: For in living, I should but lead a life in a circle of sorrows, and made in a Labyrinth of distress making the woods witnesses of my woes, and the flinty stones recorders of my plaints. Therefore, I say, Donvallo, seek to prevent the effect, by cutting away the cause; bow the twig while it is young, lest waxing to a tree, it sooner burst then bow; strike while the iron is hot, lest being cold, it will receive no other impression: Use him to the bridle in his youth, lest when he cometh to greater estate no reins be able to contain him.

Scarce had Fallacia unburthened her self of all her conceived venome, but Donvallo regarding the circumstance of her words, and not respecting the collusion of her wiles, allowing all her propositions for Articles of his Creed as a man led by some tempestuous fury, he thundred out this dismal Oracle. Proud Boy (quoth he) hath an aspiring thought already taken habitation in thy breast! Yea, I see it with mine eys: But seing thy arrogancy is so great, and thy pride of Nature such I protest, ere the Steeds of Tyran have ten times mounted up the Levant, I will have thee taught such a bloudy Letany, as then shalt write thy lives Legend among the dead.

The King having thus powred out his balefull Sentence, Fallacia having throughly satisfied her self with hope of his death, and having ended their unlawfull dalliance, they took their leave each of other for a time.

Chap. 3.

CHAP. III.

How *Donvallo* plotted with two of his Guard, *Bernaculus* and *Brandillo*, to ſlay his Brother *Doroſa*; and how *Donvallo* cauſed the Earl *Plauto's* head to be ſmitten off, and afterward ſent for his youngeſt Brother *Pleudippo* from the Marqueſs of *Rino*, and how *Pleudippo* was forced to flye for ſafeguard of his life.

NOw no ſooner had the Night exchanged his ſable Mantle, and put on his Morning-veſture; but Donvallo boyling in the heat of his new-conceived ſuſpition, having already plotted the deſtruction of Doroſa, he proſecuted his determination in this manner. Doroſa going to School about a furlong from the Earl Plauto's houſe with one that inſtructed him diligently in the knowledge of ſeveral Languages, and the cuſtomes of other Nations; thither he repaired every day, onely accompanied with one ſervant and his Page: which the King underſtanding called to him two fellowes of his Guard to whom he thought he might moſt ſafely commit the charge of this Maſſacre. Theſe with fair promiſes of great preferment he eaſily allured to go murther his brother as he traverſt his School-walks, ſetting before their eyes preferment or death, which they might freely chuſe. Theſe companions were eaſily intreated to act this Tragedy, and having their mandatum, they preſently hoyſed themſelves, and haſted toward the place; where they were no ſooner come, but immediatly they eſpied Doroſa going from his Tutors, none with him but his Page, having ſent his man away about ſome other buſineſs. They ſeeing Fortune lent them ſuch a favourable aſpect to perform this homicide, poſted unto him, with all reverence doing their obeyſance, and with

most sweet speeches saluted him, then to the intent they might draw him out of the common path, after a forged manner they certified him; That his brother the King was in good health, and very desirous to see him: and further, that he was hunting in the Forrest within two miles, and how if it pleased him, they would attend him thither.

The Prince nothing suspecting this treason, willingly consented to bear them company; but no sooner were they out of the common way, but one of them with a short glaive took the Page suddenly and soundly on the head, that he clove him down to the shoulders.

Dorosa seeing this murther, nothing danted with fear, but with a bold resolution, Villain (quoth he) why hast thou committed this mischief upon my harmless Page? Scarce had he uttered these speeches, but this cursed cut-throat thus rigorously replied. Proud Boy, it is now no time to answer thy demand; but prepare thy self to bear him company to the infernal Hags: And so made toward him to have given him a sip of the same sawce. But the other being of a milder temper, (and stirred thereto by some divine motion) leaped between them with his Rapier drawn, and uttered these speeches.

I tell thee Bernaculus (for so was this Ruffian called) we may with better conscience save this Lad, and yet obtain our desire at the Kings hands.

Yonder at the Haven is a ship of Pagans, even now in a readiness to set sail, to them will we sell Dorosa, and so shall we not be guilty of the murther, and yet receive a double reward. To this was Bernaculus easily induced, rather to receive money for his body, then for any remorse of his wicked conscience. Hereupon Brandillo (for so was the other of the two called) took Dorosa by the hand, and briefly shewed him, how that it was the King his brothers pleasure that they should have murthered him: yet notwithstanding, they were content to give him life, and to let him live among those Mores and Pagans; provided, he would solemn-

ly promiſe never to make himſelf known to any, which if he did, they were ſure to help to paciſie his brothers fury with the loſs of their lives. And yet this would not ſo appeaſe his rage, but the fury therof would ſtretch it ſelf unto the uttermoſt bounds of the earth, in queſt of him to bereave his life. Doroſa ſeeing it was no boot for him to be froward, quickly condiſcended to this requeſt, ratifying the ſame with an oath never to diſcover their dealing: and being come to the Ship, they proffered them their merchandize. The Pagans ſeeing ſo beautiful a Lad, they preſently bargained with them, and agreed to give them thirty Duckets for the lovely Youth.

Thus having furniſhed themſelves for their voyage with a pleaſant gale they furrowed the ocean with ſuch expedition, that in a ſhort time they were far enough from all the parts of Aragon, where we will leave Doroſa with theſe Infidels, and return again to Donvallo and his complices. Theſe things diſpatched, Bernaculus and his companion haſted again to the King, whom they certified how they had ſealed Doroſa a quittance of his life: the King received no ſmall content with this news, who immediately made the ſame known to Fallacia; ſhe on the other ſide, now thought her ſelf ſufficiently revenged, that for one coy look had wrought his deſtruction.

Donvallo very liberally rewarded his miniſters of miſchief, yet more with promiſes then paiments, although both were great, yea and much the greater in that he pretended to uſe them again in the like damnable actions.

Soon was Doroſa miſſing at the Earl Plauto's, who being full of grief, ſent ſearchers throughout all the Country of Aragon; and the Page being found ſlain, made them have ſmall hope of his Maſters life.

Theſe News were quickly blown unto the Court, which made the King ſhew a counterfeit kinde of lamentation; and to make the ſame ſeem the greater, he fell in rage againſt the Earl, and immediately commanded

him to be proclaimed Traytor, and that by his negligence, or rather by his consent, his brother Dorosa was most villainously and traiterously made away. And to ease the Earl of these late sorrowes, he caused his head to be smitten off from his shoulders. This was no sooner done, but immediatly he caused all his brothers Dukedome, and the Earles possessions to be setled into his own hands.

And now having rid himself of the one Brother, he thought every minute a day and every day a year, until he had sealed his younger brother a Passport to bear the other company: but the Marquess of Rino seeing what befel unto the Earl, by the loss of Dorosa, kept him so straightly in the Castle, as he suffered him not to pass any further then into the Garden adjoyning unto his Chamber, and then alwayes attended by ten tall fellowes at the least; which Donvallo understanding, and perceiving he could not compass his intent as he did the other, intended to play fast and loose after another manner.

And resting in this determination, he played the subtle Raynard, as you shall presently hear: One day calling a Pursevant he sent in all haste for the Marquess of Rino, who being come the King feigning himself very sorrowful for the loss of Dorosa, briefly declared unto the Marquess, in that he had miscarried with the Earl, he meant to have Pleudippo into his own hands therefore (qd. he) dispatch and with all expedition let him be brought for the fear which I have of him, causeth me that I shall never rest in quiet, untill I have him safe in my own custody.

The Marquess was not much displeased with this command, by reason of the danger which he knew was always permanent over his head, if any intended Treason should be by any means effected, as the apparent example of the Earl manifestly declared. And although his allegiance to the deceased King, and his love toward the young Pleudippo made him unwilling to commit this tender Lamb to the Wolf for his safeguard, as he feared the sequel would ex-

press:

preſs: yet notwithſtanding all this without delay he performed his precept, and ſent Pleudippo to the Court, whom the King, as one whom natural wit had taught a politike kind of diſſimulation, hiding fire in the aſhes, with all curteſie entertained, cauſing him always to dine and ſup at his own Table, and very ſeldome or never to depart out of his own preſence.

This procured no ſmall joy in the hearts of his Nobles, and eſpecially in the Marquels of Rino, who now began to condemn his prejudicated opinion, and to blame himſelf, for ſuffering any ſuch conceit to enter into his deceived fancy. Thus continued the pad hidden in the ſtraw, for the ſpace of half a year. But now Donvallo boiling again in the heat of his malicious madneſs, thought he lent Pleudippo over-long a life; therefore ſending for his former kil-cows, charged them that the next day they ſhould make away Pleudippo.

And the better to act this bloudy Tragedie, by one means or other to ſeduce him out of the Pallace, and how they ſhould be highly eſteemed & rewarded for their pains: and for their faithful ſervice he would grace them with the renowned Order of Knighthood, and when his ſiſter Flermia was of age, he promiſed to beſtow her upon one of them to Wife: theſe fair words ſtirred up willing minds in theſe graceleſs Villains, who eſteemed no heaven but wealth, and reckoned every great gift for ſome petty god, ſuch a whetſtone to courage was the promiſe of preferment to theſe baſe companions. Now the next day being come, they attended with all diligence to finde Pleudippo at advantage.

During the forenoon they found none: but after dinner it ſo fell out as they eſpied Pleudippo alone in one of the Gardens belonging unto the Pallace; where approaching toward him, with enticing ſpæches they allured him further abroad yet not ſo cloſely, but by chance a certain knight being in an Arbour, both heard and ſaw them: yet nothing

suspected their wicked drift and treachery, they once having him abroad, drew him toward the sea side, thinking to make sale of him as they did of the other: but coming to the Haven they found no ship in readiness, but they perceived one belonging to the Soldane of Nequea under sayl, not far from the shore, which they seeing got into a certain Boat, and like tall Mariners made after them: but such was the swiftness of the Bark, and the unskilfulness of these new Saylers, that the further they rowed the more they were behinde.

They seeing themselves in this frustrate of their hope, purposed to have cast Pleudippo over-board, to be drenched in the waves. Whiles they were yet in this determination, behold there came a little Skiff floating on the Waves, which they seeing, and having haled the same unto them, altered their determination; and as they had made Merchandize of one to the Mores, so they committed the other to the mercy of the seas (having taken his oath that if fortune should permit his safety not to discover himself) and set him in the Skiff without either Sail or Oar, or any succour to sustain himself, where we will likewise leave him to the mercy of Eolus, and the sea gods, and return with Bernaculus and Brandillo, to see how Donvallo traits them for the execution of his tyranny. No sooner were they come ashore but presently they were attached upon suspition of murther, and by the Marquess of Rino committed to safe custody, for that Pleudippo was already wanting in the Court, and the Knight which saw them lead him away, had already made the same known.

The King with a dissembling countenance of discontentment used many counterfeit kindes of sorrows, yet all this while being ignorant that his messengers were apprehended, which being once reported unto him, as one nipt in his head with fear, was driven into a great perplexity for a time, but he whose wits never failed in the like stratagem, not long resting in this Dilemma, yet continuing in his dissem-

diſſembled diſcontent, he ſent for one of them by ſundry of his Court; who being come into his preſence, the Marqueſs of Rino being preſent, immediatly laid accuſation againſt him, that he was culpable in muthering, or villainouſly making away of the young and noble Pleudippo, and this the Knight which diſcloſed the ſame, offered to make him confeſs by combate, ſo pleaſed the King they might be admitted the ſame.

But the King having already plotted his deviſe fearing to commit his affairs to any ſuch equality of Juſtice, drew out eaſie from under his gown a ſhort Hanger, wherewith he ſo well rewarded him for his ſervice, as he could never after ſhew himſelf diſcontent, cleaving his head in ſuch ſort, as his brains daſhed againſt the Pavement; that fatall blow being delivered, he uttered theſe ſpeeches; I will be Combatant with all ſuch Villains as ſhall perform any ſuch treachery within my Dominions.

This done, he commanded his corps to be voided from his preſence. And cauſing the other to be brought before him, who nothing knowing how his fellow was rewarded, he ſent him likewiſe to bear him company in Charons infernal Boat.

This paſſed, the King fell again to his lamentations: but behold in the night when he was at reſt there appeared unto him in a dream his brother Doroſa, having in his hand a Sword, and on his head a rich Crown; and bending his browes as though Anger had there plowed the furrowes of his wrath, he uttered theſe ſpeeches.

Oh Donvallo, are the ſolemn Proteſtations thou madeſt to thy deceaſed Father ſorted to this effect? Know, moſt tyrannous King, thou that viper-like eateſt up the glory of thine own kindred, heaping ſin upon ſin by thy murtherous intents; thou, more cruel then Nero; more tyrannous then Phalaris; more unnatural then Akhea; and leſs pitiful then Agave: Well may I think thee never to be the Sonne of that late renowned Fragoſa,

but

tut, Duris genuit cautibus horrens, Caucasus Hircanæq; admorunt ubera tigres. And think Donvallo, though thy dear resolution will not till too late belive thy misfortune, that the very heavens will conspire thy confusion, and the time will come when no ransome shall redæm thy life, but the same hand which murthered others, shall be turned against thy self: these spæches finished, he suddenly vanished away, leaving Donvallo terribly distempered with the accusation of his own conscience; wherein we will likewise leave him for a while, for by this time is Pleudippo dead for hunger, starved with cold, or arrived on shore.

CHAP. IV.

How *Pleudippo* was cast on shore on the Coast of Brittain, and what happened him there.

PLeudippo was by the favour of the Destinies and friendship of Neptune, with gentle blasts driven on land in the Coast of Brittain, after he had bæn floting on the waves almost thræ days; at last the Youth fæling his Boat stick fast in the woose, waded forth to the firm Land, and being very fæble for want of food, and stiff through the extreamnes of the cold, setting himself under a Træ, looking up toward heaven, opening the sluces of his eys, and bedewing his chæks with Pearly tears, he breathed out these complaints: Die Pleudippo, Plendippo die: yea, thou hast no other cause but to wish for most swift and spædy death; thou art by discent the Son of a King, but now no better then the basest begger: the one thou hadst by birth, the other is assigned by destiny; thou art in an unknown Land without food, and utterly void of friends.

Ah

Ah Pleudippo, thy miſfortunes are more then thy years: the flowers of thy youth are nipt by the froſt of envy, and all thy hopes for fruit muſt periſh in the bloſſome: thy good friend the Marquels carefully kept thee, and as one dreaming of thy future miſery, watched thee more narrowly then the waking Dragons did the Heſperian Citrons, ſeeking to prevent the cauſe; but thy unnatural brother Donvallo purchaſing his ends hath delivered thee to the inevitable and thirſty jawes of untimely death.

Ah Pleudippo, is this the hope thou haddeſt of ſo great courteſie, and ſo ſoon changed into extream cruelty? Oh my dear brother Doroſa, well do I ſee that we have both drank of one cup, but may I live to mans eſtate, I will not neglect to ſeek thee, even in the moſt ſecret and farthеſt bounds of the Earth, even among the Turkes, Mores, and Barbarians, for unto ſome of them art thou ſold as a prey, either to be a ſlave to thoſe Infidels, or elſe a ſacrifice to their abhominable and falſe gods: And again comforting himſelf he uttered theſe ſpeeches: yet Pleudippo, ſince thou art eſcaped his fury, give a comma to thy ſorrows, hope that after a hard Winter will come a moſt pleaſant Spring, and when the days of thy extream woes are paſt, thou ſhalt regreet the cheerfull April of thy Summer joyes, cheer up thy ſelf and to thy travels, ſeek out ſome houſe or habitation, Olim hæc meminiſſe juvabit; as fortune hath ſcourged thee with nettles, ſo may ſhe ſalve thee with roſes: All things have a time, and the longeſt Winter will have an end.

As Pleudippo was thus in the depth of his meditations, an old ſervant belonging to Dorelio then King of Britain, paſſed by that way, who ſeeing a Lad ſit there in an unfrequented place with ſuch ſorrowful countenance, painting out his diſtreſs with the abundance of his tears, comming toward him, finding him to be ſo goodly a youth, he was already partaker of his miſery, and the good old fellow was moved with compaſſion. Pleudippo ſeeing him come, as one

betwéen fear and hope with the tears standing in his eyes, rose up and saluted him with such a courteous kinde of behaviour, as moved no little pitty in this old Attendant who straight supposed by his outward behaviour, the child should be of some worthy parentage: but when they spake, well might they make signes, but neither of them understood the other.

Then Pleudippo plucking up his spirit of boldnesse, took him by the hand and shewed him the Boat, decipbering by signes that he was driven on that shore. Which Fidus (for so was this old fellow named) seeing presently imagining that he must néeds be oppressed with hungers extremity, took the Lad and set him upon his horse, and rode himself behinde to stay him, because he was very stiff and feeble. Thus posted they towards the next Town, and having taken up their Inn, old Fidus called for such Cates as the place could afford. Pleudippo herein was somewhat cheered, who fed with such an hungry appetite, as it seemed unto him a most rich and costly banquet, ever shewing signes of gratefulnesse to old Fidus.

Thus stayed they some two days refreshing themselves in their common Inn. At length Fidus seeing Pleudippo recovered his strength, prepared himself for their journey, calling on their Hostesse to know the reckoning, that they might satisfie it and depart. During the time of their abode there, the Hostesse (having never a Son of her own living) had taken such a special liking of Pleudippo, as she desired no other payment for their provisions then the Lad, whom she promised to love and nourish during her life, in stead of her own onely Son, which lately before was arrested by death.

But old Fidus who thought the Kings Court a more fitter place for so tender a youth, then a barbarous and common Inn, would by no means consent: which the Hostesse seeing, fetched forth a Cloak and a paire Rapier which lately belonged to her deceased Sonne, and gave them to

Pleudippo, in that she saw he was but slenderly fortified against the cold.

These things being done, old Fidus and Pleudippo betook themselves to their journey toward the City of Troynovant, where the King then kept his Court. Now during the time of their abode in the foresaid Town, their remained a certain Knight belonging to the Duke of Gaule, this Knight was very desirous to have had Pleudippo for his Page, which because Fidus would not grant, so soon as they were gone out of the town, he commanded three of his men to follow after, and take him away by force.

Thus galloped they after them amain, and before they had passed two miles, they had well nigh overtaken them: then one of them calling unto Fidus with a loud voice, said; Discourteous Villain, better had it been for thee to have granted our Makers request, for now too late shalt thou repent thy denial, and that which thou refusedst to give by courtesie, thou shalt not onely be compelled to yeild by constraint, but also lose thine own life for thy folly.

Fidus although he were something withered with years, yet being bold and hardy, alighted from his horse and drew his sword, by this time were the other two dismounted and likewise made towards him with their naked weapons brandishing in their hands.

Pleudippo seeing his friend in such distress (yet ignorant of the cause in that he did not understand their speech) leaped off his horse and drew his Rapier, thinking either to yeild present succour to his friend, or else to leave his life, as a Trophy of his intent (which he being not above eleven years of age did little esteem in that fortune had been to him so contrary.

In this determination, he drave at one of them with all his might which his contrary seeing, purposed to have beat by his thrust, but it was so desperately made, he could not avoid it, and Pleudippo pierced him quite through the body, whereupon he presently fell dead to the earth.

Old Fidus seeing this unlooked for succour, renewing his courage, he fetcht about such a swash blow, as he had made the crown of another of them like a new shaven Frier, but that by chance the stroke lighted somewhat lower, and in stead of his hair he cut off so much of his head as the very brains fell about his shoulders. The other seeing this, thought if he staied any longer they would cancel his crown like a new discharged obligation, thus timor addidit alos, being plumed with the feathers of fear, he turned his back and fled, swearing to himself that if one pair of legs were not worth two pair of hands, he were like to go short home. Fidus seeing the coast thus clear, took the two horses of them that were slain, and set Pleudippo upon one of them and himself upon another (leading his own in that he was sore wearied with travel) and with all speed galloped away, making such haste that within three days they were safely arrived at Troynovant, where the King then lay: who walking with sundry of his Nobles upon one of his Galleries, he espied old Fidus, whom before he had sent about some special business into the West parts of his Realm.

And seeing so goodly a youth with him, commanded him presently to come before him: Fidus being come before his Highness, and having according to the custom of the country upon his knee done his obeysance, the King forthwith fell to questioning where he had that beautiful and well adorned youth? In mine eye (quoth he) the onely pattern of natures perfections, his very looks deciphering him to have the true characters of Magnanimity stamped in his breast. Whereupon old Fidus recounted to him in particular from point to point where he found him in what manner, and all other accidents which befel him in his travel, not forgetting with what courage he assisted him in that perilous combats, and every way reputing him for the most courteous, hardy, beautiful, and best accomplished Lad that ever eye beheld. The King taking great delight to hear these discour-

diſcourſes, commanding Fidus to bring him to his perſon: no ſooner was Pleudippo come into the Kings preſence, but he humbled himſelf with ſuch a Courtly grace as aſtoniſhed his Majeſty and his Nobles, to ſee ſuch princely behaviour in ſo young a youth. every one judging him to be of high deſcent. Pleudippo viewing the ſtately buildings coſtly Galleries, and gallant troop of Nobles calling to mind the deceaſe of his royal Father, the eſtate from whence he was ſain, the magnificence of that Court, and the cruelty of his brother: theſe brave him into ſuch a dump, as the tears began to fall afreſh from his chriſtal eys, which procured ſuch pity in the Kings heart, as he roſe up from his ſeat and embraced him tenderly in his arms; and calling for the Tutors of his own ſon the Prince Andronico, who was a goodly youth and much of the years of Pleudippo, commanding them that they ſhould have equal care over him, as ather his own, and that he ſhould be diligently inſtructed in their language: for (quoth he) his very look approveth great worthineſs in him in time to come. But here will we leave Pleudippo with his Governours, to diſcourſe of Doroſa and his fortunes.

CHAP. V.

How *Doroſa* ſayling on the Sea, was taken priſoner among the Mores, by the Hungarians; and what followed.

THe Pagans had not ſailed full forty Leagues from Arragon, but by chance they fell into the lapſe of two ſhips pertaining unto the high and mighty King of Hungaria, betwixt whom began a moſt dangerous and bloody skirmiſh, yet in the end, the Hungarians bowred the Mores, and in deſpight of their reſiſtance entred the ſhip, enforcing them to yeild.

And having imprisoned all those adorers of Mahomet, at last they found Dorosa, who lay fast bound in one of the cabines, for fear he should have any way have offered violence unto himself.

The Hungarians having loosed his fetters, demanded from whence he was: Dorosa loth to break promise with his brothers messengers, replied, he was a Gentlemans Son of Gallicia, sent unto Aragon by his friends, and his conductors robbing him of all his treasure after made sale of his person to those barbarous Infidels.

The Captain pitying his estate, and seeing in his face sufficient tokens of ensuing honour, promised him that when he came in Hungaria he would so further his cause, that he should become Page to some Nobleman about the Court.

Dorosa thanked him with such a courteous and Courtly behaviour, as it made the most barbarous in all the ship to attribute great commendations to this unknown Lad. Thus having hoist their Sails, with a merry Gale they cut their furrowes in the Ocean, shaping their course for Hungaria, where the winde being favourable within short time they arrived, where they committed all those cursed Miscreants unto most fearful and darksome Dungeons, where we will also leave them, railing and exclaiming against their false Gods, in that they appertain nothing to our Historical discourse.

These things dispatched, the Captain with the Walkers and divers of the cheif of the company walked up into the Town, and with them was the unknown Dorosa, as they were thus traversing up and down for their delight, to recreat themselves after their bon voyage, by chance there met them the County of Terrain. This Captain was well respected of the County, in that he had bin sometime one of the Gentlemen of his fathers house.

The County therefore taking him by the hand gave him a most courteous welcome, and after enquired of the success

ceſs of all his Sea-adventures, all which the Captain diſcovered at large, leaving no points of their fortunes unrecounted.

Thus being earneſt in their chat at laſt the County casting his eye aſide eſpyed Doroſa, and fixed his eye upon him, which Doroſa noting, bowed himſelf toward the ground with ſuch a ſeemly grace, as made him take a further view of his favour and proportion, which finding to be ſo exquiſite and well accompliſhed, he demanded of the Captain who and from whence he was: whereupon the Captain briefly declared unto him, how and in what manner he found him among the Pagans, and how he affirmed himſelf to be a Gentleman of Gallicia, ſold unto them by the fraudulent dealing of his conductors. Truly (qd. the County) well may he be of ſome honourable Parentage, and his very looks approve him of ſome high deſcent, for his very face is a map of magnanimity, and in his brows are ſtamped the characters of future honours; and it ſeemeth his bringing up hath been anſwerable to the excellent conſtitution of his body, he is of ſo gallant a diſpoſition and behaviour. Would you would (qd. he) beſtow him as a guift on me, I would be always ready to requite your kindneſs, and as occaſion preſents itſelf uſe him well.

Right Honourable Lord (qd. the Captain) I am very glad, not onely that I have any thing wherewith to gratifie your worthineſs, but alſo that I may prefer him to ſo gracious a Lord and Maſter, hoping that by your means in time to come, he ſhall little regard his former ſuſtained injury: therefore my Lord, take him at your pleaſure and command.

The County having rendred him moſt harty thanks, called Doroſa and demanded if he were content to attend upon him as his Page. Doroſa ſeeming no way diſcontent, anſwered; he was at his pleaſure, at all times willing & ready to the utmoſt of his ſmall ability. Now from this day forward did Doroſa ſerve the County, continuing with him til

he

he came to the age of 18 yeares, greatly esteemed of the County for his vertue and honesty, beloved of his Lady for his exquisite beauty, and generally affected of all the Gentlemen and servants belonging to the house for his courteous and kind conversation amongst them; but especially of his Lady, who would willingly have yelded to him large thoughts of her chastity, and made him corrival with his Lord in love: But he was too young to solicite such a suit, and fear with-held her from hazarding her credit in the hands of such a youngling scarce able to conceive of the heat of affection. Thus continued he I say, for the space of four yeares, without acting any great matter worthy the recital: which because his deeds were so many as might replete large Volumns, to avoid both mine own toyl, and lest I should be rather tedious to the Reader, then delightful to the hearer, I omit.

Now at that time there was in the Forrest adjoyning to the Counties Pallace, a wonderful wild Boare, this Boare had continued there for the space of 13 yeares, so fierce and terrible as the very hardiest in all the Countrey durst not any way oppose him, by reason whereof he did so many and great mischiefs in the Kingdome, by spoyling the Vineyards, turning up their fields, yea and devouring both man and beast, or whatsoever came in any of his walks: This Boare having all his bristles more stiff then the strongest bodkin, and more sharp then the finest needle: so that with them he was able to strike through the most soundest compleat harnels, and with his tusks to tear asunder all wilde beasts whatsoever. More fearful was this Boare then that of Callidon, slain by the worthy Meleager, and far surpassing that of Delphos slain by the famous Palmendos.

Chap. 6.

CHAP. III.

How *Doroſa* ſlew a wilde Bore, and what great honour and eſtimation he gained thereby; and what after happpened during his abode with the County.

FOrtune ſo ordered things, that a Kinſman of the County's paſſing thorow the Foreſt, fell into the deadly walks of this infernal Monſter, who moſt furiouſly ſet upon him, rending and tearing his carkaſs with his horrible tusks, and devouring both fleſh, blood, and bone, into his greedy and rabenous paunch; his fearful Page ſaving himſelf by flight, ran trembling to the Counties declaring the ſad misfortune of his maſſacred maſter, and the terrible tyranny of that infernal monſter. The County hearing this, and fretting at his miſhap, and being incenſed with anger, and every vein filled with choller and diſcontent, determined without delay to give the Boar a chaſe: therefore ſending for divers Knights and Gentlemen his neighbors he declared his intent; for (quoth he) it is not unknown unto moſt of you, he is ſo miſchievous, that if he continue long, we ſhall all be endamaged by this earthly fury or devil incarnate, inchanted here by ſome hellish ſorcery, for ſome damnable intent: Theſe ſpeeches ended, he commanded all his men to Arms. The Knights and Gentlemen all agreed to the Counties determination, rather for fear of his diſpleaſure, then for any deſire they had to encounter with this terrible monſter.

Thus all things being in a readineſs, they entred into the Foreſt all armed, to the number of three hundred, among whom was Doroſa, who rode on a very good courſer, with a mighty Javelin in his hand, which the Gentlemen

present, judged far unfit for so young a youth. Thus ranging about the Forrest to rouse this ugly Monster, seeking a long time, and not finding him: at length they dispierced themselves some one way and some another, searching about the thickest of the Forrest: Now by chance, as they were thus scattered abroad, the County was quite cast off from all his company and seeking to overtake them, by evil hap lighted right into the place where the Boze in a mory marsh lay tumbling himself in the myre.

The County was close upon him before he saw him, and the Beast espying his enemy so nigh him, rouzing himself, and setting up his sharp bristles, the strong Armour of his defence, whetting his mighty tusks, his eys sparkling fire, and foaming at his mouth for madness, made toward him with all his force, which the County seeing, winded his horn, and seeing the Boze eager to fight he roughly encountred him with his lance, but so hard was his harness hide, that the spear flew in pieces, and the Boze entring upon him strook his horse with his huge tusks in such sort under his ribs, that he fell down dead under his Master: lying so upon one of his legs as he could by no means get forth.

Now the company was far off, and by reason of the thickness of the Forrest they could not come speedily enough to succor him. Dorosa being nigh at hand, likewise lost among the unknown shrubs, and hearing the horn, came rushing right to the place even as the County was cast down, the Boze being ready to have torn him in pieces.

Dorosa seeing this savage divel in such wise to tyrannize over his Lord, with a fierce and desperate resolution gave him the encounter, his spear flying a pieces into the ayr, yet the same glancing upon his brazen side, the javelin end entred his flank where the skin was somewhat more thin, almost half a foot, the end breaking off, left it self behinde in the flesh.

The Boze feeling himself wounded, left the County and made

made toward Dorosa, whetting his tusks in such monstrous manner as if he had béen able to have torn up trées by the root.

This made Dorosa quickly leap from off his horse, and having drawn forth his sword, setting both his hands to the same, delivered such a stroke as he thought to have cloven his head in peices: but the same was so flinty hard, that his sword lighting thereon flew in thrée peices, the Bore still following fast upon him: which Dorosa séeing and finding his weapons fail him, with an admirable courage he cast the hilt of his sword at the Bores head, which lighted so right upon the gristles of his nose that the Bore gave a monstrous cry, which Dorosa seeing, being quick and lively, and never more quick then in this extremity, with a youthful leap got to the County, and having recovered his sword met the foul monster, who came gaping toward him as if he would have entombed him whole in his ravenous panch; which Dorosa séeing, taking opportunity by the forehead, thrust his sword into his mouth, and followed the same with such puissance as he sheathed it in his body almost up to the hilt: this forced the Bore to give back, which Dorosa perceiving thought he had sped him and adding a little further strength, pierced him quite through the heart, so that with a hideous cry he fell to the earth where weltring a while in his own blood, immediately gave his last gasp: by this time had the County recovered himself from under his horse, and comming to Dorosa, embraced him in his arms, uttering these spéeches.

Oh most fortunate and thrice happy Dorosa, blessed was thy comming to this Country where we inhabite to live: and right fortunate was I in the hour when I first saw thée: And above all men am I bound to give thanks to the Almighty for conducting thee hither in my so great extremity, not onely preserving my life from the jawes of this Monster, but ridding the Country from so perillous an enemy: how well hath thy face deciphered

thy valiancy, and the haughtiness of thy countenance the unmatchable splendor of thy concealed valour: As he was thus in the depth of his praise came in all the other Knights and Gentlemen, who seeing the Boze slain, were not a little joyful, wondring at the hugeness of the monster, but more admiring the courageousness of them that had slain him. But when the County declared unto them the valiancy of Dorosa, how he himself was overthrown and his page the only vanquisher, they altogether embraced him; every one extolling his courage and magnanimity even unto the clouds. But in brief, their praises and gratulations being ended, they cut off the Bozes head, and sent it by Messengers unto the King, which when he with the Nobles of his Court beheld, they all supposed that never eye surveyed so huge a deformed creature: And all of them applauding the destruction of this Monster, the King demanded how they wrought the confusion of that earthly fury, sent hither (qd. he) by some enchantment for the ruine of our whole country and common-wealth, which when the Messengers had declared, with all the manner and circumstances of the same, together with the beauty and excellent behaviour of the youth, they were all brought into a labyrinth of admiration at the strangeness of the discourse. The King having rewarded the Messenger for his pains, and sent great thanks to the County for hazarding himself against such a terrible Monster, he took a rich chain of great estimation, and commanded the Messenger to deliver it to Dorosa, and with him from me (quoth his Majesty) to persever in his begun vertues.

CHAP. VII.

How the Great-Turk craved the beautiful *Albina* to Wife; and being denied, invadeth Hungaria. And how *Doroſa* amongſt others marched againſt him: And what ſtrange accidents happened in that battle.

THe Meſſengers being departed, the King declared before the Queen, his ſonne the young Prince Feraro, and his moſt beautiful and fair daughter the Princeſs Albina, all the diſcourſe of our young Adventurer the never to be too much praiſed Doroſa, relating every circumſtance as is before rehearſed: which kindled ſuch a fire in the heart of this beautiful Princeſs, as could never be extinguiſhed, as you ſhall hear hereafter. And Feraro fully determined in himſelf, if occaſion ſerved for him to ſeek ſtrange adventures, to make this unknown Youth companion with him in his travels.

But here we muſt leave them awhile to their ſeveral opinions, and follow our Huntſmen whom we left in the Foreſt. So ſoon as they had ſent away the Boares head, two of the chief Knights took Doroſa and cauſed him to ride triumphant-like between them to the Counties pallace, where they all were moſt honourably feaſted; every one renowning Doroſa by all the means they could, allowing him at that time the next room to his Lord, as the efficient cauſe of all their extraordinary rejoycing, ever extolling his valour to the higheſt degree.

Thus having feaſted themſelves for ſome two or three days, and caroufed their bowles of Wine with an uſual freize, the feaſt brake up and they all took their leaves and departed. From this time forward, Doroſa wholly gave his minde to toſs pikes, to ride great horſes, to plant

battails and all other such like feats of famous chivalry. But as you heard before, the Countess being toucht with the love of Dorosa, these speeches of excellency and praises of his valour, through the heat of affection brought her wholly into a flame, which although she did not fully discover, yet did she call forth such and so many alluring speeches, further then modesty would permit, as Dorosa well perceived, yet dissembling the same. And remembring how his brother was led how winked in his folly, purposed in his heart never to commit any such wickedness.

Thus continued he with the County for the space of two years more, his Lady all this while never ceasing from her immodest inticements. Dorosa seeing her desire daily to augment and her impudency to war beyond all mean, he fully determined to travel into far countries, only with that chaste Joseph he might be free from her assidual temptations: but being not yet resolved which way to bend his course, his intent was altered, as you shall presently hear.

One evening divers Knights and Gentlemen being at supper at the Counties, they fell in talk of Albina the Kings daughter, one reporting her for the most beautiful Lady in all Europe another protesting the whole circuit of the earth afforded not her equal; another affirming, that if Hellen of Greece, and Lucretia of Rome were both living, she would surpass the one in beauty, and equal the other in modesty.

Thus every man passed his judgment, some one way and some another; but to conclude, all supposed her to be the lively pattern of all perfections, Natures best piece, and a Nimph supernatural. Dorosa well hearing all their speeches decreed in his minde to have a sight of that Phenix, before he left the confines of Hungaria. Whiles Dorosa was thus in the midest of his imagination, and the Gentlemen still in the height of their praises, a Herald entred the hall, and bowing himself in reverence to the County and Ladies at the table, delivered his message unto this effect:

Wor-

Worthy and thrice noble County, in the Kings Majeſties name I kindely ſalute you. I am here commanded (by vertue of a Commiſſion under his Majeſties hand) to charge and command you upon pain of his Highneſs diſpleaſure, that with all ſpeed you gather by ſound of drum, or otherwiſe, all ſuch forces as can poſſibly be raiſed within all theſe parts of the Kingdome, and with them in all haſte to repair toward his Majeſty: for this day the great Turk that high and mighty commander of Aſia, hath invaded the confines of Hungaria, with a puiſſant army of two hundred thouſand ſtrong and hardy ſouldiers, ſwearing by Mahomet, Alcaron, and the ſhrine of Mecha, to work the utter ruine of this Kingdom, if the King will not give him his fair daughter the beautiful Albina to wife: the which all men know how contrary the ſame is to our profeſſion and Religion. And rather had the Lady bereave her ſelf of life, then be ſubject to the luſt of ſuch an hellish Infidel, who already hath two hundred Wives, and three hundred Concubines, all which he uſeth and abuſeth at his pleaſure: and rather had the King hazard both life and Kingdome, then to yeild ſo precious a jewel to that unchriſtened Mahometan.

This ſudden and unexpected ſpeech of the Herald cauſed a ſhivering fear in the hearts of many of the Nobles, Knights, and Gentlemen; ſome fearing loſs of their lives, others the walking of their goods, many the captivity of their wives and children, and all the ruine and finall deſtruction of Hungaria.

But this raiſed a content in the heart of Doroſa, who had now vowed himſelf to follow arms, and further hoped in theſe wars to act ſomething that might be acceptable to the ears of that exquiſite Princeſs. Supper being ended, the drums thundred, the trumpets ſounded, allarums were given, and poſts ſent about with all ſpeed, ſo that by the next day the County had full 15000 men in armes. Doroſa had in this time fitted himſelf of a moſt ſtrong armour,

mour, taken a mighty lance, and a well-tempered sword called Slaughter (sometimes belonging to Primaleon Emperour of Greece) which had hanged in the Armory of the County and his predecessors about two hundred years, no man being able to weild the same: He also took a notable Horse out of the stable, fellow to the same the County himself rode upon, two better were not in all the realm of Hungaria: Dorosa being thus richly mounted, made his horse fetch such carriers and levaltoes, as made the earth to quake and tremble at the resolute boldness of such a rider: and being in this bravery, such was his magnanimous minde, as he thought himself able to encounter an Army with his own single strength.

The County seeing him thus mounted, was fully resolved, that if fortune shewed her self favourable, Dorosa would performe mighty deeds of chivalry in the battle. Now being all in readiness, they marched in very comely equipage toward the King, who by this time was ready to enter into the field, having in his army 30000 souldiers: with him was likewise the Duke of Porenna, having with him 20000.

Now when the Counties power were come, they were in all more then 60000 strong, but the Turk had three times so many: and further he protested, except the King would speedily bring forth his daughter, to lay all Hungaria waste, though it cost the lives of those present, and of two hundred and fifty thousand more of his strongest and hardiest Janisaries.

This made the Kentest of all Hungaria to tremble, but necessitas non habet legem: The King was resolute, and the rest must either fight or dye, and seeing that delay bred danger, in that the Turk still looked for new supplies out of other countries, he divided his Army, the Front whereof was led by the Duke of Porenna whom he appointed to give the first charge, having under him 15000, he himself with the young Prince Ferraro his son, led the main battalia,

ſalia; the County of Turrain led the Rereguard, having in his Army full ten thouſand, among whom was that unknown Doroſa. Now the King placed the County under the ſide of an hill, wiſhing him not to ſtir till the time of their greateſt danger.

The King having thus ordered his Army, intending preſently to ſet upon his enemies, who were there ready in the plain nigh to the Caſtle of Porenna, encouraged his ſouldiers with theſe ſpeeches:

Renowned Hungarians and my companions in Arms, whoſe valour hath equallized the moſt valiant, as they that dwell in far remote climates can report, and the Turks themſelves (by proof hereof in times paſt) can teſtifie; yea, and the wings of every winde can whiſtle the ſame: then ſeeing you have already obtained the fame of fortitude, let not the multitude of theſe unbeleiving Infidels any whit dant the courage of your never danted valour, though they be three for one, our cauſe is juſt, and they contrary to all reaſon, like unto ſuch wicked Infidels as they themſelves are (for unto no other can I compare them, in that their wickedneſs cannot be equalled with any) they I ſay, with fire and ſword ſeek to bereave us of our lives, to lead our wives and children captives, and to make a deſolate wilderneſs of this our famous country and kingdoms, or elſe that which is worſe, here to place the name of their moſt monſtrous idol.

More he would have ſaid, but with this he was forced to break off his Oration, for that the Turk already gave an allarum to the fight. The right wing led by the King of Aquilea, gave a furious aſſault upon the fore-front of the Hungarians, preſſing on with their thick troops, laying on heavy blowes on ſuch ſort, that in leſs then half an hour the Dukes power was almoſt wholly diſcomfited: which the King of Hungaria ſeeing, rushed forth with his main battel with ſuch fury, as they bore and beat down the Turkes horſe and men to the ground, ſo that in ſhort ſpace more then

ten thousand pagans lay weltering in their own bloud: In this conflict the King of Aquilea was slain, and the Duke of Porenna so sore hurt, that he was fain to be carried out of the army into his tent.

The grand Sultane seeing this, pressed forth with all the ranks of his main Army: now began the battel with such rigour as might have dismayed the strongest courage to behold the fury of this fight: there might you hear the drums thunder, the trumpets sounding, the fifes warbling: there might you see the Knights cast off their horses, horses running without their masters, some without arms, some cut off by ỹ middle, some thrusting, some killing others dying: yea to conclude, so cruel was this fight, as might have terrified the stoutest champion to behold: but the Turks being more then three for one, followed the fight with such rigour, as the Hungarians being discomfited, were ready to have taken themselves to flight: But the bloudy pagan thinking to make this the last domesday of all the Hungarians cast his ranks in a ring and compassed them about on all sides, which the County of Tarrain seeing, despairing of all hope of victory, was ready to have taken himself to flight: which Dorosa (who all this while longed to be amongst them) seeing, uttered these words.

What my Lord? it is reproachful to be the last that fight and the first that flye, much more to flye and never fight: what courage my Lord? Audentes fortuna juvat: with this spurring his courser, and as it were one led on by some tempestuous fury, rushed in among the Pagan ranks overthrew seven Turks one after another horse and man to the ground, redoubling his blowes with such valour as the Turks on all sides were glad to free his passage: which the King of Nequea one belonging to the Turk seeing, roughly encountred him with all his puissance, their lances flew into the ayr like dust, Dorosa never stirring in his saddle, but this proud Pagan was turned topsie turvey over his horse tail.

The County ſeing the valour of Doroſa, ſtirred with a deſire of honour, paſſing forth with his troops, gave a freſh ſupply: now began the fury of the battel in ſuch ſort, as is impoſſible for my rude pen to expreſs the clattering of their armour ecchoing in the ayr, and the very earth trembling at the beating of their horſe hoofs.

Thus continued the fight for the ſpace of two hours, hard to judge on whoſe ſide fortune would be prodigal: Doroſa all this while laying on ſuch load, that whereſoever he went, the Turkes fled like ſheep from a hunger ſtarved Wolf, ſwearing by Mahomet that Mars himſelf in the likeneſs of a man, was come down to ſuccour the Chriſtians: his deeds lik wiſe renewed ſuch courage among the Hungarians, that no one of them but endeavoured himſelf to the uttermoſt of his power to excel the other in deeds of chivalry: By this time had Doroſa made a lane through the Turks and was got into the middeſt, where the Hungarians were enclosed.

Now there was in the Turks hoaſt a mighty giant called Mordaco, this miſcreant wrought great dammage to the Hungarians, beating down horſe and man to the ground, which the King ſeeing, took a ſtrong lance and ran with all his might againſt him, but nothing was able to ſtir him in his ſaddle: but Mordaco ſeeing the King before him, and partly knowing him by the beautifulneſs of his armour, lent him ſuch a ſtroke with his heavy mace that he forced him to kiſs the earth.

The Prince Feraro ſeeing this, with a deſperate reſolution ſet upon this Pagan: but alas, the ſecond ſtroak this Mordaco reached him ſo ſound a blow on the head, as he fell from his horſe: by this time was the King got up again on his feet fighting very valiantly, being beſet about with many Pagans: but luckily in this skirmiſh Doroſa breaking through the rankes and ſeeing Feraro fall from his horſe, yet not knowing that it was the Kings ſon, ſnached a ſpear out of the hand of one that was next

him, and encountred this Mordaco with such a counter-buff, as he heaved him quite over his horse crupper, who with the weight of his corpulency burst in the body in such sort, as his bowels came out: And there letting his hand to his good sword Slaughter, freed the passage maugre the passage maugre the might of all those unchristened curs. And catching the horse that this terrible Pagan rode on, horsed again the Prince Feraro, because he saw him in most danger, and likewise rescuing the King from all his enemies that had enclosed him, placed him upon his horse, who was then so weary and faint, that he was fain to go out of the battel into his tent. By this time the Turks lost their lives so on all sides, as it was easie to perceive to whom the Victory would incline, which the great Turk seeing, and how the mighty Mordaco was slain, on whom he trusted more then on half his Army, fear adding wings to his heels, turned his back and fled, crying out to his Nobles, he that is last in flight shall be first in death: but Dorosa seeing this, with an hundred stout Hungarians which now followed him at an inch, encompassed the Turk and his Nobles: every one seeking to shift for himself, left the Turk prisoner to Dorosa, whom he committed to those Hungarians, following himself among the other part of the Army, killing and slaying the Turks like sheep, even unto the furthest bounds of all Hungaria, untill night grew on, and darkness forced them to sound retreat.

Chap. 8.

CHAP. VIII.

How after the Battel the King enquired who *Doroſa* was, and commanded him to be brought before his Majeſty, and after he appointed his lodging to be in his own Tent with his ſon the Prince *Ferraro*. Alſo how fair *Albina* the Kings daughter fell in love with *Doroſa* upon others commendations, and what afterwards happened.

THis glorious and happy victory thus obtained every man was commanded to his own Squadron, and having quietly repoſed themſelves after their late travels, there was immediately order taken for the burial of the dead bodies, which they found of the Hungarians five and twenty thouſand, and ſome odd perſons, but of the Turks were ſlain five for one. Theſe things being ended, the King diſpatched a meſſenger poſt to the Court, to declare the joyful and long wiſhed for news of this ſuddenly obtained victory to the Queen, the fair Princeſs Albina, and the reſt of the beautiful Ladies.

This done, the King enquired what they called the young man, unto whoſe prowels they were all ſo much indebted: one of his Nobles made anſwer, that it was one that was page unto the County of Turrain, he which ſlew the great Boar in the forreſt of Danos.

Then the King ſent a Herald to the County, commanding him and Doroſa to attend his perſon: which they immediately did.

No ſooner were they come into his ſight but the King roſe up and went toward them, which Doroſa ſeing, falling down upon his knee offered to kiſs his hand, but the King would not permit the ſame, but taking him in his arms, embraced him after a moſt kinde manner, and therewithall uttered theſe ſpeeches: Thou flower of all chivalry and

magnanimity, whose perfect perfections of rare outward ornaments, is a true map of thy inward vertues, and a never fallible index of thy undanted valour: by thee, and by thy means hath our misfortunes been prevented, and without thy help we had all been slaves unto death, or woful subjects to unspeakable misery: thou hast not onely delivered me and my son Feraro, which were even at the entrance of deaths door, but hast done general good to Hungaria, which had this envious day been drowned with the blood of her natural inhabitants: but thy arm clearing us from these mists of misery when all hope of life was past, hath filled these plains with an ocean of blood from the hearts of those cursed miscreants, eternizing thy name through the worthiness of thy actions.

With this the people shouted out, Long live valiant and fortunate Dorosa, whose violence among our enemies was like a storm of tempest beating down all hope of their harvest in the husk, or like the waves of Neptune overturning their Boats, making their dead carkasses float in the billowes of their own blood. Dorosa blushing to hear these high commendations, kneeled again to the ground, and replyed in this manner.

Mighty King, if I have done any thing worthy the rehersal, it was but the duty of a subject towards his Prince; and for your praises I esteem my self altogether unworthy: neither was it my prowess that so furthered this victory, but all those worthy chieftains and souldiers, who like resolute lyons coled the pride of this overdaring Soultane, and if it were my hap (qd. he) to succour your majesty and the worthy Prince Feraro your son, whose deserts this day are worthy to be accounted in the highest degree: I hold that subject worthy of death, that will not hazard his life in the behalf of his Soveraign, against all such insulting tyrants. With this the King immediately bestowed on him the order of Knighthood, too small a reward for his honourable acts: yet the greatest honour the field can af-

ford.

lord. Theſe ſpeeches ended, the chyrurgions having again ſearched and dreſſed their wounds the King cauſed Doroſa to have his Cabin provided in his own Pavilion, with his ſon Feraro. Thus the day paſſed away with joy, feaſting themſelves with their warlike proviſions untill the night grew on, and every man betook himſelf to his reſt, where we will leave them for this night to refreſh their over-wearied bodies with ſome ſweet ſlumbers, and return to the Queen and her daughter Albina, with the reſt of their Ladies.

All this while the Ladies were ſad and heavy, and had heard no tydings of their expected fortunes: and now the fourth night after their departure being come, they could hardly ſuffer any quiet nap to enter into their careful heads eſpecially Albina, in whoſe tender heart the fearful rumour of theſe terrible wars had made ſuch an impreſſion, calling to minde the danger wherein ſhe with all the Countrey of Hungaria was in: therefore getting up very early and leaning her ſelf in her window breathed out theſe pitiful lamentations:

Oh unfortunate and miſerable Albina, happy hadſt thou been if the day of thy birth had been the term of thy life: What unkinder Planet had dominion at the time of thy Nativity? Oh what frowards deſtiny hath allotted thee this mishap? Thy life is now on the lateſt period of expectation, and thou like to prove to thy father as Helena did to Priam: Yea, be ſure of this (quoth ſhe) if this heathenith tyger prevail, that no pitty is to be looked for from ſuch devouring panthers as have neither pitty nor piety: Oh well might my worthy father have done, to have given me into the hands of this tyrannizing tyrant, rather then to hazard his eſtate, crown and dignity for me unworthy girl: as ſhe was thus in the depth of her plaints, one of the watchmen of the tower having eſpied the Poſte, knocked at the door declaring that there was a meſſenger came galloping from toward the Camp in all haſte, and that he was already

within

within less then a mile: these tydings made the Queen and all the Ladies quickly arise to hear the news that might reioyce their hearts, or else the sad report of their calamity and future misery: And being come down the Post entred into the hall, who having done his obeysance, the Queen commanded him to declare his message, which God grant (quoth she) it be good it is so much desired.

Renowned Queen (quoth he) I am not that black tell-tale of evil misfortunes, but bring you tydings of our good success and your happy deliverance: know then in brief (quoth he, that the Pagans are put to flight, the great Turk himself taken prisoner, and more then a hundred thousand of them lye welt ing in their own blood.

Then fell he to discoursing from point to point, from the beginning to the ending of all events which happened in that battel. How they were almost discomfited, and how that the valour of one Dorosa was the onely means to encrease their courage: How the King was overthrown, and likewise the Prince Feraro by the giant Mordaco, and how Dorosa sent the soul of that mischievous Monster to attend Pluto in his Kingdome of darkness, and how he horsed again the Prince, and rescued the King in despight of the cursed rabble.

Now assuredly we need not doubt what great delight these pleasing reports bred in the hearts of all those worthy Ladies, seeing they so nighly appertained to their safety: With this the Queen rose up, and taking the messenger by the hand, gaving him great thanks for his joyful and welcome message: then turning her self about to her fair daughter and the rest of her train of gallant and beautiful Ladies, said unto them; how or in what manner shall we be able to requite the unspeakable desert of that famous Dorosa?

With this she having commended her self by salutations to the King, pulled the chain from off her fair neck, and sent it to Dorosa, saying, give this to that renowned

Pon-

Bounty with hearty thanks from me and all theſe Ladies here preſent, for his faithful ſervice and valiant atchievements in this cruel war.

With this the beautiful Albina, whoſe heart was almoſt ravithed with the heroick exploits of this exquiſite Martialiſt, roſe up, and with a pleaſant demeanour pulled off a rich diamond which hung on a little chain about her wriſt, and gave it to the Meſſenger, ſaying; Seeing theſe wars ſo nearly concern my ſelf, I ſhould ſeem very ingrateful if I ſhould ſend nothing unto that worthy Doroſa, to ſhew with what thankfulneſs we receive this moſt honorable ſervice at his hands, and tell him from me, I will be as ready to requite his deſerts to the uttermoſt of my power, as he was forward with the hazard of his life to purchaſe us liberty. With this all the Ladies applauding this happy victory, every one of them ſent one jewel or other to that fortunate Aragonian.

The Poſte thus having his charge, and being bountifully rewarded for his pains, with all expedition returned toward the Camp, leaving the Ladies in all poſſible content. The meſſenger being returned to the Army, declared to the King with what joy theſe news were accepted at the Court, and having left no tittle of his commands unrehearſed, he went unto Ferara and Doroſa, between whom was entred ſuch a league of amity as continued until death; as you ſhall hear hereafter.

The meſſenger having ſaluted the Prince, turned toward Doroſa, declaring the commendations and thanks they all in general had given him in charge.

With this he delivered the chain and diamond which the Queen and her daughter had ſent, with all the jewels of the reſt of the Ladies: which when Doroſa beheld, he thought himſelf happy that he was deputed worthy to receive ſuch excellent favours from thoſe exquiſite Ladies, but eſpecially of Albina. And taking the chain and diamond which ſhe had ſent, put it about his wriſt, reſolving

in his minde never to depart from the ſame during his life, inwardly vowing himſelf the loyal ſervant of that peerleſs paragon.

Whyle he was in this determination, the King having taken order for the priſoners ranſoms, and divided the ſpoils, the greateſt part whereof was attributed unto Doroſa, which was not ſo frankly given, but he as freely beſtowed it again among other of the ſouldiers, which won him no ſmall good will of all the common and inferiour ſort. The ranſome of the great Turk was ſet at ſeven thouſand, thouſand pounds, all which the King offered to beſtow upon Doroſa, but Doroſa anſwered he deſired no greater wealth then his favour; therefore moſt dread ſoveraign (quoth he) beſtow this huge maſs of money upon ſome other perſon whom you ſhall think meet and were my opinion authentical, ſeeing the Turk contrary to your good will and liking deſired your daughter to wife, and for this cauſe made ſuch forcible invaſion, by with his treaſure ſhould make her ſuch a ſubſtance, as were ſufficient for to join her with the greateſt Monarch on the earth. The King highly thanked Doroſa for this advice, and preſently ordained that his daughter ſhould have all the Turks ranſome for her dowry.

This done, and the ſoldiers diſmiſſed, they all took their journey toward the Court, every one applauding the happineſs of this victory: thus clipping Times wings with the tediouſneſs of their talk, within two dayes they were come within ten miles of the Court: which the Queen hearing ſet forth with the fair Albina and all her princely train of Ladies to meet them, all clad in their moſt coſtly robes, in ſign of joy and gladneſs for this ſo obtained victory: they met all together within three miles of the palace in a pleaſant valley called the Vale of Delight, where the King and the reſt of his Nobles ſeeing them, alighted off their horſes. The Queen likewiſe with her fair daughter and Ladies, iſſued out of their ſeveral coaches, Albina being

being cloathed in a kirtle of white damask, all drapped with branches of silver, her gown of purple coloured velvet curiously embroidred with rich knots of gold, the sleeves thereof all set with Emeralds of most rich and costly price, the tresses of her hair, like the golden threds of Diana, lay out from under a silver cawl, as though love had there laid in ambush: upon her head she did wear a garland set round with diamonds, rubies, carbuncles, rich pearles and precious stones of all sorts: about her lilly neck she wore a sumptuous chain, in the midst whereof between the snow-white orbs of her breasts, hung down a rich carbuncle, by art still gracing nature: her eys like the stars of Ariadne, or the Sun-beams reflecting upon a rock of chrystal, pleading pitty in the heart of every man which beheld this beauteous object, the onely phoenix of the age, in whom beauty and vertue triumphed.

This paragon was no sooner presented to the view of Dorosa, in whose brows honour sate all this while twining to her golden tresses, but that the Idea of her perfections were so lodged in his heart, that he protested inwardly all they which made reports of her beauty were partial in their praises, in that they were not half sufficient to countervail her excellency.

Dorosa standing thus dreaming, as if he had builded castles in the ayr, having his thoughts busied with sundry imaginations of Albina's perfections, was shaken out of his dumps, as you shall presently hear.

The King and Queen having saluted and embraced each other, the Queen made toward Dorosa; which Fernando seeing, laid his hand upon one of his shoulders saying: Behold dear friend where the Queen my mother cometh! Which Dorosa hearing, with a blushing countenance, as he were chidden by him for his oblivion, stept on toward her, and falling down upon his knee, offered to kiss her hand, which she graciously permitted: by this time the Princess Albina having done her duty to the King her

father, and he embracing her lovingly in his arms, looking after her mother, espied Dorosa, and fixing her eye stedfastly upon him (the tyrant Love now minding to aggravate her amours) she more admyred his beauty then before the report of his valour.

Then grew she dumb with admyring, then sighing because she was dumb, blushing to hear her self sigh, and then again grew pale, fearing lest her blushing, dumbness, and sighing, should of any other be perceived then of her own heart.

After her warring thoughts had taken some truce, the king noting all this while the sudden mutations of her complexion, demanded what griping grief gauled her at the heart, or what extremity of passions drave her into these extraordinary alterations? But to minister some receipt of comfort in her bitter agony, he told her he had at the request of Dorosa bestowed on her the Turks ransome, which was so great, as her dowry would be sufficient to match with the most mighty King or Emperor in all Christendom: which the Princess hearing, wished that Dorosa might be that Emperor which should enjoy both her and all that great dowry. These speeches being ended, the king wishes his daughter to be thankful to that happy Dorosa, who was now not onely a second father to her, but even unto himself, yea and even the general good of all Hungaria. At his command Albina went toward this worthy Aragonian, who seeing her come, stood as one with a flea in his ear, or as one with the Gorgons head transformed into a stone; gazing upon her face with such a serious survey, that caused Albina with a blush to infuse such a vermillion dye in her snow-white face, as far surpassed that of Luna, when she kissed the bright shepheard Endimion on the hill of Latmos. Which Dorosa seeing, as a man newly waked out of some sweet slumber, with a gracious demeanor fell down upon his knee, offering in like manner to kiss her hand: but the Princess taking him by the arm, uttered these speeches.

Most worthy

worthy Sir arise, for it ill becometh the Knight of all chivalry, and most excellent by desert, to kneel to so simple a Lady as my self, rather let me prostrate my self at your feet, acknowledging your worthiness to be the onely supporter of my life, unto whom I shall never be able to yeild sufficient requital: Dorosa, so far as a maidens power may extend, assure your self I will be alwayes forward to further your good which I hope shal be sufficient to breed in you content, though nothing answerable to your great desert, for, ultra posse, non est posse. And this I say, presume that I will performe; and wherein I want, I doubt not but my father will be ready to supply.

Dorosa feeling in his heart the extreamest of Loves martyrdome, these gracious salutations were but as torments to encrease his passions and woes that farther renewed his wounds, with a stedfast countenance, as one building his fortunes in her eyes, breathing out a sigh, and staying his face with a roſate and comely blush, replied in this manner.

Divine Princess, seeing it pleaseth you to attribute such praise to so small atchieved victories, and to profess such future friendship for so slender a demerit, you have not onely given me such a reward as may forfeit me with content, but bound me your most dutiful servant, until the latest period of my life. And were my desert much as it is scarce worthy to be named, one friendly look from so exquisite a Lady as your self, might be esteemed a sufficient guerdon for the same.

Longer had Dorosa continued his gratulations, but by this time the King was again mounted on his palfray, and the Queen getting up into her Coach, which forced them to break off the parley, and with a lovely signe glancing from their eys, gave a period to their discourse at that time. As soon as they were come to the Kings pallace, where all things were prepared for a most rich and costly supper, to refresh themselves with their princely delicates after their late

late travels. The table being covered, every one was placed according to his worthiness. Dorosa this night was placed next unto the Kings highness, over against him the Duke of Porenna, and by him the County of Tarrain; every one of the Nobles in their degree at a square table, over against them, sate thy Queen and her Ladies.

But Dorosa all this supper-time was so bulle in contemplating his most glorious object (the Princess Albina who was seated over against him) that he fed with a slender appetite, verifying the old proverb, Ubi animus, ibi oculus, levelling the arrowes of his eyes at the buts of her beauty in such sort, as if she had been the artick point, and they the needle drawn by the attractive vertue of the adamant, never able to turn unless they failed by variation, they alone did the office of the tongue and hand, as trusty Secretaries and faithful messengers of the effects of the minde, often blushing, and again mingling his outward blushing with inward sighing, and sighing became dumb, for fear his looks (too publike a tell-tale of his love) should be perceived of any other then of her, whom so much he desired.

Albina on the other side was not idle in her thoughts, though fearfulness made her cover her love in more secret manner: for Venus boy had given them such a touch with one venemous arrow, that they might both say with Ovid, Amor nullis medicabilis herbis; neither was it possible for either of them to be cured, but by the water which flowed from the fountain from whence they received their disease.

Supper being ended, divers kinds of strange Musick came in, which being come, sundry of the Nobles betook themselves to dance the Measures. The Duke of Porenna bearing an entire affection unto the Princess, took her by the hand, and requested her to dance: but she excusing her self, answered she was not well, for she felt some griping at her heart, by reason whereof she could not perform

form his requeſt: and farther, ſhe feared much ſtirring would hurt his yet uncured and dangerous wounds. The Prince Ferraro ſeeing this, called for a gallyard, which when he had well performed, he earneſtly requeſted his friend Doroſa to do the like, which at his intreaty he preſently undertook, performing it with ſuch Majeſty and grace, that all proteſted he was no leſs active in theſe paſtimes, then valorous and reſolute in the wars, and that he was as fit a courtier for Venus, as a combatant for Mars. Albina having all this while over-viewed the ſports, feeling the heat of her new kindled amorous fire encreaſe, craving leave to depart, and bidding them all good night ſhe with her Ladies went unto her bed-chamber, where ſhe being diſrobed thinking to beguile theſe new conceived paſſions with ſome quiet and ſweet contented ſlumbers, ſhe accounting love a toy, and fancy a momentany paſſion, and perſwading her ſelf that as the one was taken in with a gaze, ſo the other would be eaſily ſhaken off with a nay, thus imagining her conceits would have rocked her aſleep ſhe quickly betook her ſelf to her reſt, ſtrictly commanding that no noiſe ſhould be made.

But now when ſhe began to ſleep, ſtraight wayes the lovely perſonage of Doroſa was preſented unto her, and when ſhe awaked ſhe could think of nothing but his valour; and thus betwixt ſleeping and waking ſhe ſtill was dreaming of his moſt exquiſite parts, and his perfect and rare accompliſhments.

Being thus troubled in her thoughts, tormented at the heart, and diſtempered in her braines, ſhe raiſing her ſelf in her bed; and leaning her head on her hand, and perceiving her Ladies were all faſt aſleep, ſhe fell into theſe lamentations: Ah Albina what ſtrange and extraordinary paſſions are theſe that thus challenge intereſt in thy heart? or what unacuſtomed torments do thus afflict thy minde? or what is it that thus impoſtoully tyrannizeth in thy poor Virgin and unſpotted breaſt, and bereaveth thee of thy

wonted

wonted quiet rest? Poor soul, what strange fire dost thou endure, burning within like Æ na, and how dost thou nourish the same, and Salamander like livest therein? Oh Albina, thou with earnest gazing against the Sun art become blinde, by staring on the stars hast stumbled on the stones, and by thinking to sip of love, hast already drunken at once so large a draught, that thou art wholly drunken with the venome of his drugs.

Fond Girl, why dist thou prize the worth of his valour at the price of thy life? Or take in that at the eye which consumeth the whole body? Cur aliquid vidi cur noxia lumina feci? Thou hast roved Albina beyond the Moon, and if then yeild to these passions, shalt let thy Bark sayl beyond the most honourable point of thy compass. And wherein fond wench? but even in the tempestuous sea of Love, ready if then shun Stirts, to sink into Symphlagades, amidst the pikes, between Scylla and Charybdis, thy bark being guided by such a pylot as delighteth only in the shipwrack of them he carieth: And on whom (fond fool) hast thou fixed thy love? on a Stranger: what though valiant? yet thy fathers vassal: and although beautiful, yet of base birth and kindred. Wilt thou fond wench settle thy self to fancy him, forgetting thy estate, the honour of thy family, and come to the lure without calling? Yea neglecting the offer of mighty Kings, now dote on one of so mean a parentage and calling. Why if thou intendst to love yet love one of thine own Country, and yeild to the request of that honourable and right worthy man the Duke of Porenna, of whose loyalty thou hast had long experience. Fond vain wench, why do'st thou think to yeild thy love to either of them: no, forget these amours, settle thy self to thy rest and rise early and fall to thy needle: Otiam si tollas periere cupidinis arcas. Then Albina think no more of Dorosa his beauty or valour: but and if thou canst not quench the coals of desire with forgetfulness, yet rake them up in the ashes of modesty; carry two faces under one hood, color

the

thy flaming fancy with a feigned shield, bear a painted sheath with a leaden dagger, and a merry countenance though a melancholly mind: and of all thy fathers knights esteem Doroso the least, yea and so much the less as he is the latest.

With this taking forth her Lute which lay at her beds head, she warbled forth this ditty.

All this night
By his might,
Love hath made my heart his Cell,
From joy,
Wanton boy
From mine eyes did run expel.

Wanton sports,
Wily ports,
Slippery flights, and foolish love,
His intent,
To invent,
How to catch the simple Dove.

Blinded boy,
Venus joy,
All thy god-head is a toy,
Power small,
To enthral,
Or to work my hearts annoy.

I have sight,
Armour bright,
Compound of rare chastity:
This I say,
Night and day,
Shall withstand thy dalry.

Then pack hence,
Get thee hence,
Or with nettles Ile thee whip:
For thy sinne,
Thou shalt winne
Scourges that will make thee skip.

Thus having finished her Ode, she shrowded her self again in her bed, and betook her self to her slumbers, fully intending by the bridle of reason to master her affections, as indeed she did for a time.

Now on the other side Dorosa who was further pricked with the extremity of his passions, having taken his farewell of the company and being entred into his chamber, fell into these complaints:

Unfortunate Dorosa, hast thou escaped from the fury of these horrible wars, and in them gained fame for thy valor, and hast now received such a wounde by beauty, that it must cost thee thy life? Fond Dorosa, hath Love shot his wounding arrow, and made the wound altogether mortal? And with whom art thou in love? with no less person then Albina, a Princess by birth, exteriorly beautified with the gifts of nature, and inwardly adorned with divine perfections? Fond fool, hast thou not read that Bucephalus would stoop to none but Alexander; Mercurius pipe will be tuned of none but Orpheus, nor such great Ladies be courted of any but of great Lords? What Dorosa, canst thou not see the sun, but with the foolish eagle thou seekest to build thy nest therein, and so burn out thine eyes with thy ambition? Yet Dorosa, what if Albina be a Kings daughter? art thou not likewise the Son of that late renowned Fragosa? And what if she be beautiful, hath not nature endued thee with the like perfections? Ah Dorosa, but though thou hadst a mighty father, thou art but a feeble son, banished from thy lands, from thy country and kindred: by an unkinde brother: Leave then these termes, lest as the Bird Celos

wandring

wandring from her neſt cannot return through forgetfulneſs, and for ever after abandoneth company: ſo thou by remembring what thou haſt been forgetteſt what thou art, and by an aſpiring minde ſeeking to climbe, catcheſt ſuch a fall, that thou loſeſt thy new friend, with thy old.

Then Doroſa ſeek thou to allay thy aſſaulting paſſions with wholſome meditations: And firſt think with thy ſelf what hath allured thee to love; her wealth, her wit, or her beauty; her behaviour, or her bravery: If her wealth, contemn riches, and learn to be wiſe; and with Pythagoras deſpiſe thoſe riches which with liberality are walked and loſt, and by ſparing be ruſt and rot: if ſhe be witty, why the more witty the more wanton; for this maxime is held authentical by moſt women, that wit without wantonneſs is preciſeneſs.

And hath her beauty allured thee? tuſh Doroſa, the freſheſt colours ſoonest fade, the golden apple is moſt infected at the core, and the fineſt cambrick ſooner fretteth out then the courſeſt canvaſs.

Dejanira was fair, yet her jealouſie the deſtruction of the moſt mighty Hercules: none more beautiful then Helen, yet her inconſtancy the overthrow of Kingdomes: and Angelica was of a moſt pure complexion, yet ſo proud, as by the over-prizing her own beauty, ſhe contemned all men.

Think Doroſa, that forma numen habet, was rather the ſaying of a fool then the ſentence of a philoſopher: for the Cheſt-nut tree bringeth forth the ſoft ſweet cheſt-nut out of the prickly and hard huſk: the ſtone Galactides, though it be black in ſhew, yet being broken it produceth matter more white then milk, and the fouleſt toad hath the moſt precious ſtone in his head.

And as for beauty merely of it ſelf, it fadeth with the winters blaſt, and is parched with the ſummers ſun, every wrinkle is ready to deface it, and the leaſt ſcar is ready to ruinate the ſame; which if it eſcape, yet is it but of ſhort continuance.

Forma bonum fragile est quantumque accedit ad annos :
Fit minor & specie carpitur ipse suo.

And what then Dorosa hath enticed thee, her bravery? Why the Estritch hath fair feathers, but rank flesh. In painted pots is hid the most deadly poyson: and gay attyred women are like the Ermin, whose skin is desired, but his carkass despised. Women Dorosa are extream in all extremities.

Est in eas pietas Crocodilli astutia Hiennæ.

Then if thou pretendest to love, think to how many importunities thou offerest thy self. The worthy Emperour Marchus saith: If a man love them not they account him a villain; if he love them, they think him light; if he leave them, repute him a coward; if he follow them he is lost; if he serve them he is not regarded; if he serve them not he is hated. They take so oft the bit in the teeth that in doing evil no bridle can refrain them; and so slow to do well, that no spurs can prick them forward: They are lovely by nature, but become serpents by malice; they are constant in nothing but inconstancy; And as a late writer learnedly saith:

Vult dare sed cupiens, simplex & honesta videri:
Denegat & pugnat, sed vult super omnia vinci.

And Socrates saith, women are more malicious then a serpent, more envious then a tyrant, and more deceitful then the devil. All venemous beasts have not so much poison in their tayls as they have in their tongues, they are mala necessaria: yea, and to conclude, though they were made of the perfections of men to be comforters, they have tasted of the infection of the serpent, and are altogether become corasives.

What Dorosa will thou become some byting satyrist, that thou art thus envious against their sexe? haddest thou not thy being from one of them? Is it not an evil bird that will pick at his dams eyes? Fond fool, keep a hatch before the door, let not thy tongue run before thy wit: Was

there

there not as well a chaſte Lucretia, as a wanton Lais: as well a pure Electra, as a prodigious Paſipha: as well a kinde Alceſte as an inconſtant Creſſide; as well an honourable Penelope, as a diſhoneſt Hellen; and as well a devout Judith, as a wicked Jezabel? Do not then Doroſa approve of the opinion of ſo few men, neither infer a generall conclusion upon a particular propoſition: for as the earth bringeth forth both the bee to give honey, and the ſpider to yeild poiſon; ſo are there ſome few women as vertuous as any were vicious: And then think Doroſa, if any be endued with vertue, Albina is vertuous; yea honour Albina, favour Albina, ſerve and love Albina; yet ſo that then make not thy ſelf a ſlave to Cupid, nor bowed ſervant to Venus. Doroſa having thus pacified himſelf, leaning his head down, fell into a ſlumber.

CHAP. IX.

How *Doroſa* and *Albina* continued in love each unto the other, and neither of them durſt attempt to diſcover it. And how the vertuous *Albina* was impriſoned through the falſe accuſation of *Mordeno* the diſloyal Duke of Borenna: And what after happened.

PHœbus had no ſooner unveiled the curtains of the night, but theſe two faithful lovers having purpoſed to bury their affections in the grave of oblivion, betook themſelves to their ſeveral employments. Doroſa with the reſt of the Nobles to their Forreſt ſports, Albina like a good houſewife to her needle: He being out of hope of obtaining, and ſhe doubting faultleſs in her election; affirming, that as he which ſhooteth a pellet of wax hurteth him that he hitteth, and blindeth him that

ſtands next: ſo an evill choiſe is the deſtruction of the chuſer, the ſorrow of her friends, and the reſoycing of her enemies.

Thus continued they hiding the flames of their love in the cinders of their hearts, for the ſpace of one whole year. Doroſa all this while encreaſſing in the Kings favour, and generally beloved of all the Nobles in the Court, one onely excepted, as you ſhall preſently hear. Mordeno the Duke of Porenna boyling in the heat of his affection toward Albina, and oppreſt with the fury of jealouſie againſt Doroſa, fearing him to be corrival in his love.

Upon this ſuſpition I ſay, Mordeno fell in extream hatred toward this worthy Aragonian, and having already ſolicited his ſute, and finding the hope of his vintage nipt with the froſt of denial (for in truth although Albina covered her coals of fancy with feigned aſhes, yet could ſhe love none but Doroſa, in that ſhe found not any his equal) Mordeno ſeeing this, was fully perſwaded that Doroſa was the only man that made his deſires ſort to ſo bad effect. Thus ruminating on his melancholly paſſions, and raging in theſe fits of jealouſie, he pretended to cut the graſs from under his feet; and leſt he ſhould rob him of his love, he intended by treaſon to bereave him of his life. Thus continued the pad hidden in the ſtraw for the ſpace of half a year. Mordeno finding no means to entrap Doroſa within his ſnares of envy. Now it chanced one evening as Doroſa was walking in an arbor adjoyning next to one of the gardens of the Kings pallace, the Princeſs Albina thinking to refreſh her ſelf with the coolneſs of the ayr, took a couple of her Damoſels and walked into the garden, where they were no ſooner entred, but they eſpied Doroſa in the arbor. The Princeſs ſeated her ſelf upon a pleaſant bank of camomile, and commanded one of her damoſels to take her lute and play, that they might as well refreſh their ears with muſick, as they did their ſences with thoſe odoriferous hearbs, and glutted their eyes with beholding the curious

curious colours of ſummers prime, ſo wrapped with Flora's riches.

Doroſa ſeing this, ſtood for a while viewing the face of Albina, whom he had now not ſeen for the ſpace of 3 weeks, which ſeemed ſo glorious, as he feared with Acteon to be ſurprized with her beauty: while he thus ſtood, as coales raked up in the embers will at laſt break out into a flame; ſo love renewed ſuch a freſh aſſault, that he ſtood gazing not able any way to remove himſelf: but gathering his ſences together, and perceiving he was already eſpied, thinking this would be noted for his miſdemeanour pluckt up his ſpirits and paced towards the Princeſs, and being come nigh, ſaluted her in this wiſe: Divine Miſtreſs, if I ſeemed negligent in my duty, or ſlack in ſalutations toward your perſon, I humbly crave pardon, which I hope will the eaſier be obtained, and you the more willing to excuſe my folly, by meaſuring the cauſe of the offence: ſeing the attractive power of your beauty had ſo ſurprized my ſences, that I imagined (with the Trojan boy) I ſaw the goddeſs Venus on the Mount Ida, ſtriving to obtain the ſentence of excellency; and for my over-much gazing was ſo metamorphoſed by ſome celeſtial deity.

Thinking either with Arcas I ſhould have been made ſubject to the bowe of her ſon Perſeus, or that the diſpleaſed goddeſs of chaſtity ſhould have transformed me with Acteon and forthwith to have become a prey to his greedy and inſatiate hounds.

Doroſa having uttered theſe ſpeeches, the Princeſs painting her face with a vermillion dye, replied in this manner: Sir Doroſa, pardon ought always to be granted where the offender hath already deſerved forgiveneſs: but where no offence hath been committed, it is ſo much the eaſier granted. But as for your ſtanding ſo long ſilent, it is rather to be thought that you were ruminating of ſome melancholy paſſion, then ſo idle as to ſtand ſo long looking on her that is neither worth a look, nor worthy

of love. But as for your fear of being transformed, if Acon had been so perfect of exterior lineaments and endued with such inward valour, the goddess would have been more pittiful, then to have given so sharp a doom for so small an offence.

But had I power to metamorphose, though I did not change your shape yet would I alter your language, in that it sauoureth so much of flattery: which were they spoken in jest deserue anger in earnest, and were they uttered in earnest, well might I laugh at your folly: but seeing you are thus luckily arriued in our company, the better to bury those former follies in oblivion, let me hear your cunning on the lute; and taking him by the hand, requested him to sit down: then taking the instrument from her damosel, gave it to Doroth. He that from his youth had much delighted in that kinde of musick, with a pleasant touch and rare voyce, sang and plaid this ditty.

FLy frantick thoughts, which so torment
The lovers heart, whose eyes bespread
And cheeks bedew'd with brinish tears:
For little hope, great heaps of fears,
In love remain a world of cares.

My fancies rich doth look so high,
That in despair my minde doth dye:
Thoughts, sighes, and tears, and endless grief,
On love attend as handmaids chief,
At beauties bar pleading relief.

Cupid triumpheth at my harm,
Venus hath wrapt me in her charms:
The destinies assigne my woe,
Fortune presence her cloudy brow,
And all conspire my overthrow.

Then

Then farewel life, adieu my joy,
And welcome death to end annoy:
No life but love, no love no life:
Come *Atropos* with fatal knife,
For love or death muſt end this ſtrife.

This ſonnet being ended, quoth Albina, if you float ſo far in the ſea of love, beware leſt you bring your boat to the gulf of deſpair: for deſpair in love is worſer then death. But ſince it ſhould ſeem that love hath made you paſſionate, and that you are fain into the labyrinth of affection, let me but hear how cunningly you can deſcribe your miſtreſſes excellency? Doroſa being loth to offend, and likewiſe willing his Lady ſhould hear the ſharpneſs of his wit, drawing forth a pocket inkhorn, he wrote theſe words following:

HEr eyes, fair eyes, like *Phœbus* rayes do ſhine,
Reflecting on a rock of chryſtal clear:
Her hair more fair then faireſt golden twine,
Surpaſſing far *Dianaes* ſacred wire.
Fairs hairs, more fair then faireſt golden ſpangle,
Fair Sun-bright eyes, which freeſt hearts entangle.

A ſnowy face, grac'd with *Aurora*'s dye,
Like lillies pure in mid'ſt bemixt with roſes:
Her pearly teeth like burniſht Ivory,
Two ruby lips theſe rowes of pearl encloſes:
Fair lilly cheeks with roſes all bedied;
Fair rowes of pearl, in ruby red contrived.

Her breaſts two orbs ſwanlike encreaſing pleaſure,
Pure, clear, clean, ſoft, round, ſmooth, fair, marble white,
Well limb'd, ſmall bodied, ſtraight, an earthly treaſure,
By nature, art, and all the graces dight:

Fair face and breasts where love can never dye,
Surpassing art and natures deity.

A perfect pattern of perfections rare;
A peerless nimph, a virgin of great price;
A paragon beyond all earths compare;
A day-bright star unto my mortal eyes:
Venus her self to her might subject be,
And *Pallas* too; for wit and modestie.

The princes having perused these lines, inwardly smiling at his conceived amours, yet fearful lest he had planted his love in another soyl, laying her milk-white hand upon his arm, proceeded as followeth. Surely Dorosa, if the saint you thus zealously serve be of such rare conditions as you describe, as such a one may well be looked for, but never was yet seen; the disposition of her mind being as you affirm, equal to the composition of her body, there cannot be but pitty to redress your passions, otherwise instead of a saint I must deem her a serpent; comparing her beauteous face to the panther, and her salem ingenii, to the alluring syrens: But were I acquainted with your mistress, I would paradventure procure release of your martyrdom, and with her to entertain you not for her servant, but for her lord and husband. And please it you (quoth she) to manifest your minde, I will further your suit so far as either entreaty can prevail, or authority command which I hope will be sufficient, if she be within any of the dominions of the King my father. These words were spoken of Albina with so many changes of colour, first blushing, lest her love should be perceived of her damosels; then waxing pale, fearing lest she should promise that to another wherein depended the hope of her own health; changing white into red so often, as Dorosa well perceived that love had given them an equal touch: With this rising both from their seat and walking in the alley, Dorosa thinking to

strike

ſtrike while the iron was hot, replied in this manner: then Madam, the Lady being in your fathers Court, if I challenge your promiſe, you will not be ſlack in performance. Albina perceiving how he went about the buſh fearing leſt ſhe ſhould ſeem too forward, interrupting his talk ſaid, one onely excepted: nay quoth Doroſa, it is too late to make your exceptions when the covenants are already ſealed: and with that taking her by the hand perforce kiſſed the ſame. Albina counterfeiting a frown, was ready to have made further anſwer, but prevented as you ſhall hear. Mordeno having theſe jealous imaginations in his minde, kept wholly at the court, watching more warily, then ever Argos did over the daughter of Inachus, and perceiving the princeſs to be walked into the garden, preſently repaired thither, pretending if opportunity lent him a favourable aſpect, to lay a new ſiege to her fortreſs, or at the leaſt, to make his the ſcout, leſt any other ſhould ſound the alarm contrary to his liking. And comming into the garden and finding there the moſt miſtrucked, as a jealous brain is ever ready to judge corruptibly, preſently conjectured that Doroſa had entred a point in theſe tables wherein he wiſhed to make his chiefeſt ſport, and ſo had plaid falſe play with the Kings daughter: with this prevish conceit, he was ſo nipt on the head, that for a good ſpace he ſtood as if with Lot's wife he had been turned into a pillar of ſalt: which Albina noting and being very merrily diſpoſed, began to jeſt with him in this manner: How now my Lord, what are you in a brown ſtudy? or in a dreame? are you ſtudying who ſhall be your ſecond wife, or who the father to your firſt child or what attyre you ſhal put on to win your ladies love? a penny for your thought my Lord.

Mordeno conſtruing every thing from good to bad, and from evil to worſe, took ſmall delight to hear her thus pleaſant, and leſs to ſee Doroſa in her company; thinking them to have clapt hands, before there was any word ſpoken of a bargain. Who dreaming Doroſa to be the man

as our English proverb is, that wip'd away all the fat from his beard; holding himself to be as welcome into their company as water into a ship (as whether he was or no it was doubtful.) In this melancholly dump, as if the worms had eaten his harvest, or the frost killed his grapes in the bud, with a face full of discontent, without making any answer, he turned his back and departed.

This drove them all into such an admiration, as they knew not what to think: but at the last, Albina calling to minde his former suit, quickly found where his shoo wrung him supposing that it was some despairing thought, or rather some jealous suspition which he conceived by her talking with Dorosa. But whatsoevey it was, it afterward had a hard sequest, as you shall hear hereafter.

The evening being come upon them, with some short speeches past concerning Mordeno's discourteous behaviour, both of them judging him to have evil and malicious imaginations in his minde, and all of them condemning his ill demeanour to that honourable company, and none regarding his frowns, in that all of them knew they were on clear ground. Thus having spent their judgements, and it growing late, Dorosa taking his leave of Albina and her Ladies, they all departed into their several and private chambers, where we will leave them sleeping safely in content, until cross fortune present them with a new and mournful change; for they shall both be lodged in stronger chambers very shortly.

Mordeno departing silently as you heard, departed into his chamber, where broyling in the heat of his jealous fury, cast himself upon his bed: and although jealousie proceedeth from love, yet it produceth wicked and hateful effects: For Mordeno being now past all hope of obtaining her love, determined since he could not have the fruition of her love, to work the end of fair Albina and worthy Dorosa, by his malice. Thus mustering a whole region of devillish and mischievous conceits, plotting them in his troub-

led

led brain, allowing jealouſie both for judge and jury, he ſet down this for a peremptory ſentence: To accuſe and charge Doroſa and Albina that they had committed uncleanneſs together, and that they had defiled the Kings court with their fornication. This deviſe pleaſed his malicious humour very well, and the imagination thereof ſo highly pleaſed his fancy, that the next morning early calling for one of his attendents, one that he well knew was apt to execute any villanous treachery that he plotted: to this lewd companion he unburthened all his conceived venome, promiſing him many rewards, if he would take his oath with him that he had ſeen Doroſa and Albina even in the act of fornication.

This helliſh and damnable Atheiſt was ſoon brought to his lure, vowing ſuch ſecreſie in effecting this their wicked action as he could either wiſh or deſire. Having thus laid his plot, he waited diligently for the coming down of the King, which was not long after.

Mordeno eſpying the King, came preſently before him, having a map of diſcontent figured in his fore-head, and doing reverence according to his uſual manner immediately upon his knee began his accuſation after this manner:

Dread ſoveraign, ſuch inward griefe galleth my heart that abuſe hath been proffered in your court, by them that are foſtered in the ſame, yea, and by him whoſe ability conſiſteth in your royal favour, which to reveal cauſeth the briniſh tears to fall from mine eys, and to conceal, forceth the blood to fall from my greived heart. But ſo nigh is the cauſe concerning the renown of your worthineſs, and ſo odious is the fault in the eyes of all good men, and none having power to revenge but your ſelf, and none being able to redreſs the abuſer, ſhall alſo cut off the fruit with the tree, and bury the ignominy of your houſe in forgetfulneſs and reap to your ſelf endleſs fame for ſo due miniſtration of juſtice and equity.

The King hearing this long preamble, was driven into

a maze with the strangeness of his speeches, commanded him to reveal the matter.

Then Mordeno proceeded in this manner: Worthy and renowned King, I am not ignorant, neither is it unknown to any of your court and country, with what gracious benevolence you have always requited; yea, and how beyond all common manner you have preferred that unknown Dorosa, from a poor servant to one of your subjects, to be a knight able to keep many servants better then himself, and of a peasant by birth, to make him a fellow to princes in dignity: this I say my Lord, in that he forgetting these princely favours, and neglecting the duty of a subject, by his pride hath attempted the brightness of your family, yea not onely attempted, but hath brought a blot of infamy upon the blood-royal and whole court of Hungaria, such hath been the force of his lasciviousness, joyned with his over-boldness and impudency, that he hath dishonoured and defiled your noble house with most shameful fornication, yea and that with her, which to remember is more bitter unto my soul then bitterness it self, I mean most worthy King, with your daughter Albina: this hath not only been suspected by the Nobles of your court, but also divers have sought to put the same into my head, which by reason of their many vertues I could not be induced to beleive, untill mine eyes, the most faithful witnesses of credulity, made manifest the same by apparant view, not onely unto me, which could rather have been content to have raked up their misdemeanor, then by discovering the same to bring a reproach to your now renowned family; but sundry of my servants have seen, and with me did see the wanton dalliance between them, so that it is so far scattered abroad, as it is talk in the mouth of every inferiour person: and this my servant (quoth he) as well as I, did see the same not yet full two dayes since.

Now I having declared the matter, according to my dutiful allegeance, I commit the cause to your worthy considera-

ſtoration, to afflict them with ſuch punishment as the law hath provided for ſuch malefactors.

The King having attended this diſcourſe, was with grief and anger ſo vexed at heart; that he ſtood for a long time with a pale countenance, not able to utter one word; at length comming to his ſenſes, and allowing every word which Mordeno had ſpoken for a ſentence, and every ſentence for truth, being carried away with rage, vowed that both Doroſa and Albina ſhould ſuffer death ere ten dayes paſt, as a juſt guerdon for their offence, and ſuch as the law had provided for ſuch offenders: with this, he called for his guard, whom he commanded to take Doroſa and Albina, and to impriſon him in a moſt dark and fearful dungeon, and her in the moſt ſtrong tower of the caſtle. Theſe having their charge went ſtraight unto the chamber of Doroſa, whom they found not yet riſen him they laid hands on in his bed, and forced him to riſe, certifying him that it was the Kings pleaſure which he had given them in moſt ſtraight charge, that they ſhould immediatly convey him to the dungeon. If Doroſa were abaſhed at theſe ſudden tidings, let them judge who living in delight have with the ſudden frown of inconſtant fortune, the boat, the only hope of their ſafety, driven into ſuch a gulph of diſtreſs. But they muſt needs go whom the devil drives, there is no choiſe where conſtraint doth binde, they were all in arms, he naked; ne Hercules quidem contra duos: It availeth not the dove to ſtrive after ſhe is taken in the cruel talons of the mercileſs eagle.

Doroſa hoping the beſt, fearing nothing in that he knew himſelf guiltleſs in every thing, was content to indure impriſonment. Thus having executed their charge, they faſtened the priſon doores with great bolts of iron, and left this famous Aragonian to ruminate on his former fortunes, and to make the ſtinky ſtones recorders of his complaints; and afterwards returned to the Princeſs Albina, to proſecute their mandatum upon her.

Now

Now being come to her chamber, they found her newly risen up accompanied with certain of her damosels, they forthwith declared unto her the effect of their coming, with the straight charge that the King had given. Albina was driven into such a sudden alteration with this unexpected event, as she wished rather to dye then to continue in that close custody; but howsoever the world went, to prison she must: Thus did they carry that most excellent Lady to the place appointed; excluding her from all company, saving one of her damosels to attend upon her person: She seeing her self fast locked within four walls, setled her self down; and instead of plaints powred forth abundance of teares, and with sighes ecchoed her griefs unto the skies. In this most sorrowful dump we will leave her a while, and with this make a conclusion of the first part of our history; which ere long shall be seconded with a full conclusion, wherein I entend to finish this story: Which with patience I entreat you to expect.

The end of the first Part.

THE SECOND PART OF THE Renowned Hiſtory of Fragoſa and His three Sonnes.

ENTITULED,

The mirrour of Magnanimity, and Cupid's Conqueſt.

CHAP. I.

Of the ſorrow that was made by the Queen and her Ladies, when they heard of the impriſonment of the beautiful *Albina* and *Doroſa*; Alſo the Letters that *Albina* ſent to the falſe accuſer *Mordeno*, and to *Doroſa* being in the dungeon: With other things that happened.

NO ſooner were the meſſengers returned, and the tydings of the beautiful Albina's impriſonment blazed abroad in the court, but it quickly came to the Queens hearing, which ſurpyzed her with ſuch extream ſorrow, that ſhe immediately fell into a ſwound, all ſuppoſing ſhe had been dead. This cauſed ſuch a thivering fear amongſt the

Ladies, that there was nothing seen in all the pallace but weeping and lamenting; some mourning for fair Albina, others grieving for the Queens extremity, and all sorrowing for the offence which they imagined Dorosa had committed. The Queen at length being come to her self, and not able to conceal her anguish, with an extream sigh breathed forth these complaints:

Ah my Ladies, why did not you suffer me quietly to depart, rather then to live in this ocean of insupportable passions? for what pleasure can remain to me in life, seeing I am depriued of her which was the only joy and comfort of mine age? ah my lovely daughter Albina, the hope of whom was the onely supporter of my silver hairs: happy had I bin if I had died in my childbed, or thou perished in thy birth, and well may I wish that the day of thy nativity had been the term of thy life. Alas, must my greatest bliss prove my greatest bane, my cheifest delight prove my deepest discontent, and the disgrace of my family with grief bring me to my grave? O Albina hadst I lived to see thee thus convicted of infamy? and must mine eyes behold the dissolution of thy body, and due execution for thy former follies? Alas too severe a sentence for so sweet a saint, too sharp a doom for so beautiful a damosel, and too cruel a judgement of a father against a childe.

Oh unfortunate Dorosa, whose lascivious treachery hath poysoned the haughtiness of thy valour, and whose aspiring wickedness hath wrought thine own confusion. If heretofore against our ancient and malevolent enemy the Turk, thou did'st us any service worthy of honour, now hast thou with great wrong rewarded thy self, by taking from us that good which thou canst never restore: but let this suffice, that for thy disordered dealing thou shalt receive such condigne punishment, as shall remain for a perpetual remembrance. If the Queen took the cause thus grievously, no less was the sorrow of the prince Ferraro, for the misdemeanour of Dorosa, whom above all other he loved most entirely: and like-

likewiſe for his ſiſter Albina; and being thus ſad and penſive, he walked into the garden adjoyning to the tower where Albina was impriſoned: Thus chewing upon his melancholly paſſions, he heard Albina (who having underſtood the hard cenſure of her father) fall into theſe complaints: O heavenly creator of all things! what is there in this life but ſorrow and anguiſh of minde? no ſooner am I free from the rock of Scilla, but I ſtrik into the gulf of Charibdis, no ſooner delivered from the diſordinate love of that curſed Mahumatiſt, but I periſh through the envy of a wicked Atheiſt. Alas Albina, under the influence of what unkinde aſpect wert thou born? what unfortunate planet had domination at the time of thy nativity? O cruel deſtinies, thus to tyrannize and triumph over the innocent and guiltleſs? O cruel Mordeno, what furiouſneſs hath poſſeſſed thy black ſoul, that thou canſt thus ſwear and forſwear in ſo falſe an accuſation.

What Mordeno hath too much love made thee mad, or jealouſie long lodged in thy breaſt that it hath bereaved thee of thy ſenſes? Wilt thou either force me to love, or ſeek by thy villany to ſpill my blood? But wherein hath Doroſa offended thee? hath he in hazarding his own life in defending of thee thy poſſeſſions, and al Hungaria from deſtruction, deſerved ſuch an untimely death? Alas Doroſa, that I loved thee I confeſs, yet thy deſerts far exceeded my love: but God knoweth, that I never had either ſuch thought or wiſh of uncleanneſs as I am traiterouſly accuſed with, yea and already condemned and judged of: more grief unto me is the danger of thy life, then the expectation of my ſpeedy death: but death will be the end of my ſorrows, and death is the leſs grievous in that I die innocent, and for ſo vertuous a gentleman as thy ſelf; whoſe love towards me, how great it was I might well perceive, yet did never any motion thereof proceed forth of thy lips. Oh King my father, thou puttеſt to death thine own fleſh and blood, upon falſe and ſuborned accuſations.

Oh Prince Feraro, thy sister Albina who hath loved thee as her life, and been as dear unto thee as thine own soul, must die a most infamous and reproachful death, innocent of the crime, yet condemned by rigour: yea, and with me must thou lose thy faithful Pylades, thy trusty Damon, thy noble friend Dorosa. he which defended thy life from that monster Mordaco. Oh Queen my mother, your daughter Albina, which was the comfort of your life must die through the false protestations of that cursed Mordeno. Thus clasping her arms together, being convinced with heaviness, I leave the extremity of her grief to them that have tasted the like mishap.

Feraro having all this while hearkened to the sad lamentation of his sorrowful sister, with the tears falling from his eyes, he uttered these speeches. Alas Feraro how is thy heart over-charged with grief at the hard hap of thy friends is it possible that this should be an invented and an intended mischief of the duke? yea no doubt it is no otherwise. Why Feraro were his accusation true, yet why shouldest thou not endeavour, labour, yea and strive with might and main, to mitigate the rigour of thy fathers sentence? A perfect friend Feraro should be like the bird Ibis, which the longer it liveth the sweeter it smelleth; or like the glow-worm which shineth most bright in the dark. Why then Feraro, leave no means unessayed, or danger unattempted, to purchase their liberty: yea, if it be with hazard of thine own life. For if he voluntarily by the adventure of his person, delivered thee and all Hungaria from ruine, why shouldest not thou with the like kindness requite his actions? yea, yea, let fortune do her worst, I will either free them from this peril, or my self will make the third in this tragedy. Whilst Feraro rested in this determination, Albina having breathed her self after her complaints, taking pen and ink wrote these two letters following.

To the wicked Mordeno; ſhame to his perſon, hatred to his conditions, confuſion to his ſubſtance, and endleſs torments to his guilty conſcience.

M*Ordeno*, had'ſt thou been as valiant as thou art villainous, or as victorious as thou art vicious, we had in the late wars been in leſs danger of our enemies, and thou gained more fame for thy worthineſs, which is nothing but a heap of cowardiſe: by the fruit *Mordeno* is the tree known; thy bloſſome was fair, but thy fruit like the apple of *Aſia*, more bitter then gall; and the tree can be no other but a ſtalk of peſtilence. O damned caitiff, with what eyes canſt thou behold the writing of her that ſees into thy heart, where nothing remains but fury, and nothing lodgeth in thy entrails but heaps of cruelty. If thou thought'ſt *Mordeno* that I loved *Doroſa*, ſmall hopes had'ſt thou to obtain my liking; unleſs thou think me like the fooliſh widow, that changed all her old gold for new glaſs, or to reſemble the filty ſwine, which leave the clean ſtream to drink in the foul puddles: but had'ſt thou intended to gain my love, thou ſhould'ſt not thus have gone the wrong way to the wood, but have remembred, there is a time that the lamb will lick the wolves ear, *gutta cavat lapidem non vi ſed ſepe cadendo*; in time the ſloweſt ſnail climbeth the higheſt tree? What *Mordeno* art thou ſo ſimple that thou thinkeſt to catch a hare with a tabor: tuſh the fox will eat no grapes, and thou ſhadowing a fair ſhew under a foul pretext, wilt ſeek by perjury to cut off *Albina*, becauſe thou thinkeſt her no lettice for thy lips: But know *Mordeno* that ſome eſcape after the Phyſitian hath given his judgement to the contrary; and the patient is oft times nigheſt death, when he thinketh himſelf paſt his diſeaſe: This I ſay, in that according to the old proverb, many things happen between the cup and the lip; and that which is looked for of many, is never

ſeen of any: Then know *Mopſus*, that I am not ſo far paſt, but I may eſcape; nor thou ſo ſecure from danger, but a ſpeedy death may ſtand at thy doore: Thus hoping the one and expecting the other; I wiſh thee fare evil.

By thee trayterouſly accuſed; the chaſte
ALBINA.

To the worthy Doroſa, releaſe of impriſonment, trial of innocency, encreaſe of honour, and endleſs felicitie.

HOw hard thy impriſonment ſeems to thy perſon, or with what patience thou ſuſtaineſt thy affliction, I know not; but being a chance moſt ſudden, ſo ſuch unexpected events are above all other moſt ſtrange: Thou art innocent of the crime, and I ſuppoſe thee ignorant of the cauſe; but this is a tragedy invented by jealouſie, intended by envy, and performed by perjured villany. But *Doroſa*, ſeeing the deſtinies have aſſigned this doom, and ſuſpition ſo well played the orator as he hath procured ſentence of guilt, bear thy ſorrow with the more patience becauſe it commeth of affection, and thou haſt an equall partner in affliction. A fire divided into two parts, burneth leſs vehemently; the burthen of *Atlas* laid on the ſhoulders of many, ſeemeth leſs weighty; *Ixions* labour would have been the lighter, if *Juno* had endured the like puniſhment. *Solamen miſeris ſocios habuiſſe doloris*; it is a comfort to have a fellow in miſery: And *Doroſa* let this impriſonment ſeem the leſs loathſome, ſince thou ſuffereſt the ſame for thy ſuppoſed lover. But alas *Doroſa*, how ſhould *Albina* play the phiſitian, ſeeing her

own

own diſeaſe is paſt cure? How ſhould I procure thy ſafety, being my ſelf beyond all hope of ſafeguard? Or comfort another, and remain comfortleſs my ſelf. Is it not a common ſaying, *Medicus cura teipſum*; firſt caſt the moat out of thine own eye. Then ſeeing I can help thee with nothing but prayers, nor eaſe my paſſions with nothing but patience, I have writ this Letter, to ſignifie why thou art reſtrained of thy liberty, and what judgment is pronounced againſt thee. Know then, that *Mordeno* hath by feigned accuſations and falſe oathes, accuſed us of uncleanneſs, and the King given ſentence of death, according to the law in that caſe provided. I am partaker of the judgement, and am like to endure this injuſtice; thy fellow in impriſonment, and thy lover until death. Let it then ſuffice thee to know for certainty, that which hitherto hath not been diſcovered but by ſighes, that *Albina* loves thee; hath loved thee ſince firſt ſhe ſaw thee, will remain thy lover during life, and to bear thee company, ſhall reſt contented with her death. Thus praying for juſtice, more ſorrowful for thy danger then her own diſtreſs: Farewell.

Thine living and dying;
The ſorrowful
ALBINA.

Chap. 2.

CHAP. II.

How *Perars* being in great discontent and grief for his sister *Albina*, and his trusty and wel-beloved friend *Dorosa*, rode forth and met with a knight called *Cerillus*, who was son the Earl *Plasio*: And how he declared unto him that *Donvallo* had slain himself; and of the war that the Duke of Muscovia made against Polonia for the love of fair *Flormia*; and of other accidents.

ALbina having finished these letters, she sent them by her damosel; who immediately delivered the first unto Mordeno, who although he were touch'd to the quick, yet in the end resting careless of her taunts, in that he gaped with greedy jawes after her untimely death, took the letter, teared it in pieces, and cast the same into the fire: then the damosel going toward the dungeon, caused the other forthwith to be delivered to Dorosa, who having opened the same, and perceived the effect, understanding the love of the Princess, and the extream danger wherein they both remained, sending forth volleys of sighes, and rending his comely locks of hair for very anguish of minde, bedewing his cheeks with an ocean of bitter tears, he fell into these pensive and lamentable complaints:

Oh miserable Dorosa, thy misfortunes are more then thy years, and thy punishment is beyond the sufferance of man. Oh unhappy caitiff, what hast thou to do but lament, when thine evil fortune yeilds nothing but cause of lament? Why should thy life lack to endure these torments, and not rather dissolve into unseen essences?

Oh

Oh cruel fortune, that thus sellest all my pleasure at such a costly price; thou shewest me a fair picture, but drawn with an infectious paint; and instead of roses thou givest me a nosegay of nettles,

Oh deceitful strumpet, that for a fair apple givest me the bitter sweet; instead of an eel thou presentest me with a snake, and in offering to kisse me, thou givest me the stab. Oh world, thou hast so short continuance in thy vanities, that thou leadest all men wandring in instability: from a Prince thou didst abase me to a peasant, and for fair gardens, stately palaces and large possessions, thou committest me to filthy lodgings, a foul dungeon, and lothsome savours: Alas Dorosa, how is thy delight seasoned with discontent, thy honey mixt with gall, thy sugar mingled with salt, and thy sweetest syrup with most bitter aloes? But alas Dorosa, hast thou a companion in misery? yea, such a one as is not a comfort but a corrasive to thy heart; not a salve to thy sore, but a surfet to thy soul; not a pill to digest thy discontent, but a plague to procure thy sorrow.

Alas Albina, would my thraldome might purchase thy liberty; my death ransome thy life; and my reproach redeem thee from the like. O cursed King have I been the instrumentall means of preserving thy estate and rescued thy life, to cause the destruction of my self? Oh unkinde father, to give so cruel a censure upon such a vertuous childe. O wicked Mordeno, that seek'st by thy perjury the death of the rarest creature under the whole circuit of the heavens: with this being overcome with the extremities of his sorrowes, the abundance of his tears stopped the further passage of his speech.

All this while Feraro resting in his dumps of discontent, devising out what means were best to be used for the speedy delivery of his friends, and being thus sad and pensive, calling for his gelding, he rode abroad into the fields, thinking either to bury his melancholy in oblivion, or finde

finds some medicine to releas their martyrdome: while he was thus riding an easie pace, there overtook him a knight-errand, one that had vowed to consummate his life in travel; either to win himself a name by proving strange adventures, or to delight his minde with viewing the situation of pleasant countries.

This knight seing the Prince in such costly attyre, presently supposed him to be some mighty lord in that country, and having given him a courteous salutation, beholding such a map of sorrow pourtraited in his countenance fell into these speeches:

Worthy knight the heavines of your countenance deciphereth the hardnes of your hap, and the image of grief seated in your face, betrayeth the chaos of vexations which are lodged in your breast, the sight whereof hath taken such an effectual root in my heart, that I am already partaker and competitor of your woes; and it being the duty of every worthy knight to aid the distressed, and to their power to minister comfort to the afflicted, so I perceiving by your outward look a sure signe of inward sorrow, if it please you to manifest the cause, I shall not onely think my self bound to requite your courtesie, but to my ability remain ready to redress your grief, or with my advice to perswade you for the best; or if neither of these can prevail to be partaker of the anguish of your minde. Ferraro hearing him proceed in these friendly termes, replied in this manner:

Sir knight and my very good friend, as the shew of my face discovereth the greatnes of grief, so it is so much the greater, in that I finde no cause to hinder the effect of my sorrow: The original of which is the exceeding great danger of certain of my friends (more dear unto me then mine own life) by a conceived displeasure against them by the King my father; for which I see no means of redress, until the Almighty mollifie his minde, by fortune her self procure remedy.

Thus having in brief fulfilled your request, in remu-

muneration

muneration of which, I crave your name, country, and kindred; and withal, the cauſe that thus procureth your travel: this ſaid, the knight proceeded in this manner:

Gracious Prince, although to recite my kindred is but to rake fire out of the cinders, and in rehearſing my country and cauſe of my travel, I may ſay with Æneas; Infandum jubes renovare dolorem: Yet leſt I ſhould either ſeem ingrateful for your kinde anſwer or to promiſe much and perform little, attend the diſcourſe of my enſuing ſtory, and you ſhall be fully certified. First underſtand, that the famous King Fragoſa of Aragon, had in his life-time three ſons and one daughter, he, languens in extremis ſuper lectum, bequeathed his crown and dignity to Donvallo the eldeſt, an unlike ſtem of ſuch a ſtock, one as full fraught with vices, as ever the father was filled with vertues: to the other two young princes, children very hopeful to attain to future honours, to the eldeſt of them he gave the dukedome of Lorina, and therewithal 40000 duckets to be paid out of his treaſury, committing his education and bringing up, together with the revenews of his ſaid dukedome to the earl Plauto my father: to the youngeſt, he bequeathed the caſtle and town of Dorto and withal 50000 crowns to be paid out of the coffers of Aragon: to his fair daughter Flormia he gave 40000 pounds, with charge that ſhe ſhould be tranſported to her aunt the Queen of Poland, which was immediately performed, and where ſhe now remaineth. Now ſoon after the Kings deceaſe, the ſecond brother being under the tuition of my father, was ſtolen away and murthered, as we ſuppoſe by the ſubtilty and treaſon of his brother then King. ſince which time he was never heard of. This young duke being thus loſt, my father who loved him moſt tenderly, in the bitterneſs and anguiſh of his minde, cauſed to be ſought throughout all that country, but all in vain, it was loſt labour, they but ſought him amongſt the living, which was confuſed with the dead.

But how Donvallo the King ſeing this, counterfeited a mighty diſcontent, yet his griefe was not ſo great, but he could quickly ſeize both his poſſeſſions and treaſures into his own hand: and not content with this, cauſed my father to be apprehended of treaſon for the death of his brother; and thus in briefe diſpatched him of his life.

And this done, he likewiſe ſeized all his livings as forfeit to his Majeſtie: now not long after, feigning great ſorrow for the loſs of the one brother, he would needs have the other (who was then kept by the marqueſs of Rino) into his own hands; and having his deſire therein ſatisfied, cauſed him not long after to be made away.

About eight years after, I being then come to mans eſtate, petitioned him that he would be pleaſed to reſtore the former honours of my fathers houſe; which he being offended at, did not onely give me a flat denial, but was ſo ſore diſpleaſed, that according to his wonted cruelty, he baniſhed me from my native country for ever.

This I ſay is the efficient cauſe of my travel: but now not long ſince (as I am credibly informed) the Nobles of his kingdome noting his miſdemeanours, rebelled againſt him, and the tenth of the laſt moneth joyning their armies in the field, the King being in the end diſcomfited, and calling to minde his former maſſacres, which he many wayes committed, ſlew himſelf.

Now is the young Princeſs heir apparent to the crown, the moſt vertuous and exquiſite Lady this day living, and is yet remaining in Polonia, and for her ſake and her coſen the Kings daughter, likewiſe heyr to her father, and in beauty not much inferiour to the other, both the grand duke of Muſcovia, and with him a moſt mighty and barbarous Tartarian, wage war againſt Polonia, vowing to have the one of them the beautiful Flermia, and the other to enjoy the Princeſs Lucibella daughter to the King of Poland: For this I ſay, is all that Country begirt with cruel enemies; and great pitty it were two ſuch Princeſſes

ceſſes ſhould be ioyned to two ſuch wicked infidels, whoſe like are not this day living: and greatly is this ſame to be feared, in that their power is ſo mighty, having alſo in their army eight or nine ſtrong and dreadful giants; and now although I had onely bent my life to travel, hearing hereof I do purpoſe to direct my courſe thither, either there to end the lothſome pilgrimage of my life, or elſe to act ſomething, whereby to recover the reputation of my dreaded honours. Thus noble Prince have I fulfilled your demand concerning my unhappy ſelf, and that unfortunate country of Aragon, happy in nothing but in the hopes they have of the beautiful Flermia.

CHAP. III.

How *Feraro* plotted how *Doroſa* might eſcape out of priſon, and atchieved it. How he and *Doroſa* rode to *Corillus*, to whom upon *Corillus* ſurmiſe, *Doroſa* made himſelf known, and how they travelled toward Polonia. Alſo how *Doroſa* writ unto *Androgio* King of Hungaria in excuſe of fair *Albina* and himſelf.

FEraro hearing theſe reports of the Princeſs Flermia, they created ſuch new paſſions in his reſtleſs heart, as he felt in himſelf the puiſſance of the little god. Thus being tormented with grief for his friends, and troubled with his new entertained amours toward Flermia, his minde was tranſported in agitating firſt the remembrance of her noble birth; ſecondly, the beauty and vertues which Corillus aſcribed unto her; and then that ſhe was heir to the whole kingdome. All theſe

such spurs to a free horse, as he purposed if it were possible, to obtain the fair Flormia for his wife: but when on the other side he called to minde his want of knowledge and ignorance in loves affairs, the great Princes which continually vowed their devotions and services to such worthy Ladies: and lastly, the horrible wars and cruel enemies wherein Polonia was besieged, such a quaking fear possessed every limb, as if his soul would immediately have left the mansion of his body, and flown forth into the Elisium fields. But whiles he was thus perplexed in this chaos of confused vexations, he suddenly apprehended this devise; which was how he might get Dorosa out of prison by some wile, and with him and Corillus the Aragonian knight, to take his speedy passage into Polonia: resolving likewise with himself, that Dorosa being escaped out of prison, his father would spare to execute his displeasure and hard sentence upon his sister Albina.

This determination agreeing with his humour, he again began to continue further his discourse in this manner:

Sir Corillus, the liking which I have of your person together with the desire I have to see strange and forraign countries, and the great commendation and praise which you have given of that beautiful and excellent princess, hath taken such deep root in my minde, as I will not onely bear you company my self in your travels, but will also procure another my especial good and kinde friend to do the like, being a knight in valour second to none under the circuit of the chrystalline heavens; hoping that we shall perform such deeds of chivalry upon these heathen canibals, as their carkasses shall witness the worthiness of our deserts.

Corillus hearing this, applauding his hap of such good company, embraced Feraro in his armes, rendring infinite thanks for his kindness, protesting himself his vowed friend and servant until death. Thus having ended their gratulations, Feraro appointed to call him the next morning

ning at a place called Dording, which was about ſome thirty miles from the Kings court, and with ſerious promiſes of future friendſhip, they took their farewels of each other for that night and departed. Corillus being gone, Feraro haſted preſently to the dungeon where Doroſa lay, and coming thither with a feigned excuſe, he told the keeper he muſt ſpeak with Doroſa upon ſome earneſt buſineſs from the King, the keeper made no denial in this caſe, but permitted him quietly to enter; where being within, he found Doroſa ſo forlorn with grief, and pined away with ſorrow, as it ſeemed impoſſible ſo ſhort a time ſhould have bred ſo ſtrange an alteration.

Doroſa ſeeing Feraro came forward to meet him, which the Prince ſeeing, with the tears ſtanding in his eyes, as one partaker of his grief, fell about his neck and embraced him in his arms, in the moſt loving manner he could deviſe. This being done, the prince declared unto him what news he heard of Corillus, recounting unto him briefly from point to point all that he had ſaid: and how he determined in his perſon to go ſee the Princeſs Flermia, and by a wile help him out of priſon to be his companion in this journey; perſwading himſelf alſo that the King his father would ceaſe from any further vengeance toward Albina, he being once eſcaped. Though Doroſa was abaſhed at this news, and grieved for the decay of his friends, but moſt eſpecially for the cruelty uſed toward the earl Plauto, and his younger brother Plendippo, yet being cheered with hope of preſent delivery, and the glory of his coſining kingdome, to the which he now knew himſelf next heir, promiſed herein to aſſiſt the Prince to the uttermoſt of his ability.

Thus having reſolved upon their determinate purpoſe, Feraro left Doroſa in priſon and departed, who having fitted himſelf and Doroſa with horſes and armour, in the evening he commanded one of the grooms of his ſtable to bring them into the wood a little beſide the dungeon, and

there

there to await his coming. All things being thus in a readineſs, about nine of the clock the Prince went again to the priſon, and coming by the watch, they knowing him to be the Kings ſon, permitted him quiet paſſage: but when he came at the inward gate; and demanded the key of the keeper, he made him abſolute anſwer, that he neither would or durſt let any man enter at ſuch inconvenient hours. The Prince hearing this diſcourteous anſwer, fearing his hope would be fruſtrated, pulled forth his dagger and ſtabbed him preſently to the heart: then taking the keys went boldly into the dungeon, where again embracing each other, they came forth arm in arm to the inward gate where the keeper lay dead, there taking each of them a halbert, they determined to break through the watch by force; but Feraro calling to mind a poſtern gate, they eſcaped out at the ſame, and went to the place appointed, where they preſently armed themſelves, mounted their ſteeds, and departed; making ſuch expedition, that before Phœbus had unveiled the curtain of the night, they were ſafely arrived at Dording, where Corillus lodged; who being not yet ſtirring, Feraro ſtole a nap but Doroſa being repleat with grief, and penſive with the remembrance of the danger the Princeſs Albina remained in, writ to the King as followeth.

To the gracious and moſt mighty Androgio King of Hungaria, health, patience, and peace.

WOrthy King, I write not as one encloſed in a filthy and ſtinking dungeon, but as a free libertine managing his courſer upon the pleaſant plains; not as a ſlave to the county of Tarrain, who as the duke of Porenna affirms, keep many better then my ſelf; neither as one dreading thy power, in that

that I am already eſcaped thy frontiers; nor as one of thy baſeſt ſubjects; But as a free Knight at armes, Prince of Aragon, and heir apparent to the crown; ſun to the late King of famous memory *Fragoſa*, and brother to the late *Donvallo* deceaſed; whoſe lewd life was as much deſpiſed in Aragon, as is death deſerved by that falſe *Mordeno* in Hungaria. For my delivery, I yeild praiſe to the protector of innocents, and thanks to my noble friend the Prince *Ferraro*, who hath honourably requited my former ayd againſt the Pagans, and bound me to be his in all friendly amity. Worthy King, my greateſt and onely requeſt is this, that your excellent daughter the Princeſs *Albina*, may according to juſtice have trial of her innocency, and think that all her accuſation is nothing but a compacted piece of knavery or invented villany, contrived by the wicked and perjured *Mordeno*, who ſeeing hee could not enjoy her love, hath by his hatred ſought to end her life; and thinking me to be favoured by the Princeſs, hath ſecretly intended to act both our tragedies: That I ever loved her, I deny not; yet never further then her honour and my honeſty would allow: look upon the cleerneſs of her cauſe, and prefer not wrath before juſtice: Haſte haſteneth woe, *tempus edax rerum*; refer all things to time, and examine her cauſe by the touch-ſtone of truth. Thus wiſhing *Albina*'s delivery, and your Majeſties endleſs felicity, I ceaſe.

DOROSA: Of Aragon.

This letter being diſpatched, Doroſa cauſed the ſame with all ſpeed to be conveyed to the King. But as ſoon as the night exchanged her ſable mantle, and Aurora with the dayes bright veſture graced the eaſt, Corillus who thought it then to be true mans hour, rouzing of himſelf from his bed came forth of his chamber: out of which he was no ſooner come, but Ferraro having ſhaken off his

drowsie slumber greeted him. They having given each other a kinde good morrow, they walked forth into the hall, where in a male-contented mood they found Dorosa in a chair leaning his head upon his hand; where as soon as they were entred, Corillus looking stedfastly in his face with more then a curious survey, shaddowing his looks with a snowy whits, an ocean of brinish tears streamed down his cheeks, which Feraro seeing, uttered these or the like speeches. What, how now Corillus? what sudden grief hath seized upon your heart? that thus in a figure of discontent it covers it self with tears? what cheer man? effeminate passions, to laugh and weep all with one winde? tush man, let not the remembrance of decayed honours procure such uncouth alterations, nor the fear of any future fortunes drive thee into these despairing dumps. Nay, worthy Prince (replied Corillus) it is not the crabbedness of fortune (which in time to come may prove as kinde as she hath been cruel, in that Proteus like she delighteth in nothing but change) that can thus replete me with sorrow, in that I hold her deity in contempt, by broking her thwarts with content; but noble Prince quoth he, (and there again with abrupt sighes making a pause) it is the remembrance of that lost Prince, of whom this knight here present putteth me in minde, in whom appeared the lively sparks of true courtesie and magnanimity: he which was the perfect image of his vertuous father, and the onely hope of all Aragonia. I mean that young Dorosa, whose loss was the death of my father, the decay of me his son, and the dissolution of the whole kindred: to remember this I say, produceth not onely the tears from mine eyes, but also the warmest and best bloud from my heart.

Dorosa seeing Corillus in this agony of minde, being not able any longer to conceal himself, with the tears standing in his eyes, taking and embracing him in his arms, he then uttered these kinde and loving speeches.

Good friend Corillus, cheer up thy self, and surcease this extre-

extremity of paſſions, cléer up thy faithful heart from theſe clouds of impatience, and bury the cruelties of the deceaſed Donvallo in the grave of oblivion: think no more of the likeneſs of Doroſa, but of the love which Doroſa will bear toward thee for thy long-paſſed amity; weep not not to ſee his ſhadow, but rejoyce to ſee his ſubſtance; neither grieve to ſurvey his picture, but gather courage to embrace his perſon; for here Corillus thou haſt Doroſa, who was committed to thy fathers cuſtody, intended to have bén made away by cruelty, but preſerved by an omnipotent power.

Corillus hearing him ſay theſe words, and fully perſwading himſelf they were true, embraced him in his arms: he was ſo ſurpriſed and ravisht with joy, as for a long time he held him faſt looking on him, not able to utter one word; but at length having recovered the liberty of his ſoft ſpeeches, with many kinde geſtures and much pleaſant talk, they both began to forgot their ſorrowes. After many gratulations on both parties, they ſet forward on their journey: in which many relations of their fortunes, and hiſtories of their long-paſſed actions paſſed between them; cutting times wings, and making the tediouſneſs of their way ſhort with the pleaſantneſs of their diſcourſe: giving much content unto Ferara, with the variety of their ſtrange and unexpected fortunes.

CHAP. IV.

How newes was brought the King of Hungaria of *Doroſa's* eſcape; and while he called his counſel to conſult what was beſt to be done, the letter of *Doroſa* was delivered to his Majeſty, whereby he underſtood of *Doroſa's* birth and parentage: And how the King ordained the accuſation ſhould be cleared by combate, whereupon *Alardene* provided a mighty giant for his champion: With other things which happened.

But now by this time word was brought unto the King of Doroſa's eſcape, of the ſlaughter of the jayler, and of Feraro's departure; theſe tydings incens'd the King with ſuch a Megerean fury, as he fully purpoſed to have ſpeedy execution done upon fair Albina; yet paſſing herein a while, fearing to do that in haſte he ſhould repent at leiſure, he called for the nobles of his Counſel, deſiring their advice in this his extremity: They being all together, quot homines tot ſententiæ; every one lent his ſeveral verdict, onely Mordeno excepted; who now ſeeing he had miſt his mark of Doroſa, ſate as one with a flea in his ear, ſpeaking neither good nor bad. While they were thus in the depth of their conſultation, arrived the Meſſenger that brought the letter from Doroſa, who being entred into the hall falling down upon his knees, and kiſſing the letter he delivered the ſame unto the King: the King having broken up the ſeal, gave it to one of his Secretaries to reade: When they all heard the effect of Doroſa's letter, they were all driven into a labyrinth of admiration at the ſtrangeneſs of that which happened, till an ancient knight ſpake as followeth: Worthy King

and

and Lords, although this ſeem ſtrange unto your perſons, yet is not the ſame altogether hyperbolical: For of certainty I have both heard and known that Fragoſa had three ſons, Doroſa, Donvallo, and Pleudippo, two of the which were made away (after the eldeſt obtained the diadem) which way none knoweth. Very well then, quoth the county of Turrain, may this be one of them, in that this Doroſa was taken among the Turks, as ſaid unto them for a ſlave. And in very truth quoth he in my opinion, the very majeſty of his countenance hath continually deciphered him to be of ſome high deſcent: then noting how he excuſed Albina, and accuſed the duke (who ſate now as one in another world) they all concluded that the Princeſs ſhould have her trial by combat, ſetting down ten dayes liberty for the procuring of her champion. Which Mordeno in perſon, or ſome other undertaking his quarrel, ſhould perform againſt him. This news was quickly carried unto Albina, who truſting to the innocency of her cauſe, glad to hear of Doroſa's eſcape, the honour of his birth, together with Fenare's kindneſs in that extremity; hoping that all things would happen for the beſt, ſetled her ſelf in content. Now Mordeno knowing the falſhood of his cauſe, and again fearing that Doroſa would return to be defendant in this action, durſt not adventure the combate on his own perſon, but being governour of a certain Iſland not far off, wherein was a mighty giant, for this monſter (being there nurſed by ſome infernal Incubus for ſome damnable intent) did the duke ſend to ſtand as challenger in this eminent danger.

This giant came with all ſpeed, ſo that ere ſix dayes were ſpent he was at the appointed place, braving all ſuch as durſt ſay, that Mordeno had reported any thing but the truth againſt Doroſa and the Princeſs.

This deformed monſter ſo daunted the courage of all the Hungarian knights, as not one of them durſt once give a ſigne for her defence; every one grudging that the

duke ſhould produce any ſuch incarnate monſter to encounter any man of meaner ſtature: thus did he raſt in the field, no man daring to withſtand him, where we will leave him railing at and reviling the Hungarian knights for their cowardiſe; and follow Feraro, the valiant Doroſa, and Corillus.

Theſe two the knight-errands had not paſſed beyond the utter bounds of Hungaria, but Feraro was taken with a hot feaver, which held him in ſuch ſort, as they were there forced to ſtay twelve dayes for his recovery: at length ſeeing himſelf well on the mending hand, with eaſie journies they paſſed on for Polonia; within the confines whereof they were no ſooner entred, but they fell into the lapſe of a band of two hundred and fifty Tartarian people, fierce, ſavage and cruel. Theſe were there placed to arreſt all knights-adventurers that paſſed by; as alſo to keep the ſtraits, leſt any ſhould enter to aid or ſuccour the Polonians. The Tartarians ſeeing theſe knights, ſummoned them to yeild themſelves to ſerve the mighty Doroka of Tartaria, or elſe they were but dead. Doroſa having the perfect characters of true valour ſtamped in his heart, nothing diſmayed with the multitude of his enemies, nor danted at their other-braving ſpeeches, encountred one of them ſo rudely, that he beared him quite over his horſe crupper; Feraro and Corillus ſerved two other in like ſort: but then they were forced to diſmount, for the reſt of the Tartarians being on foot, encompaſſed them about, laying upon them ſo furiouſly, that they were in great danger of their lives: In which condition we will leave them, and the winde ſitting fair for Britain ſee what is becom of Pleudippo.

CHAP. V.

How *Pleudippo* remaining with *Dorelio* King of Brittain, having heard of the victory obtained againſt the Turks by the proweſs of one *Doroſa*, betook himſelf to travel, leaving his ſtudy, determining to ſeek his brother through the world; And how in his journey, he releaſed *Andrilla* daughter to the duke of Bruniwick, from the giant *Coſmodril*, and won him for his ſlave: And how in requital the duke knighted him.

Pleudippo having all this while remained with Dorelio King of Brittain, educated ſince his firſt arrival among the learned artiſts of his land; one day being at the court, a knight errand there made rehearſal of the happy victory obtained againſt the Turks by the Hungarians, onely by the haughty proweſs of a youthful gentleman called Doroſa; relating the ſame from point to point as is already expreſſed. Pleudippo attentively regarding his diſcourſe, this name of Doroſa made him to call to minde the ſerious vow which he ſolemnly proteſted in the depth of his diſtreſs, to travel the uttermoſt confines, and ſearch the moſt ſecret corners of the whole ſuperficies of the earthly globe, to finde out his beloved brother. With this a ſudden conceit taking him in his head, leaving the company and walking out into an arbour to meditate upon this new conceived humour, he fell into theſe terms.

Pleudippo what doſt thou thus daily poring on papers? ſeeking to purchaſe arts, when the deſtinies themſelves have deſigned thee to armes? Fond fool, is it not an old proverb, the more learned the more blockiſh? ſeeſt thou

not

not often that the greatest clarks are not the wisest men: as for thee Pleudippo, leave the study of philosophy to subtle sophisters, that by their ingenuous syllogismes seek to prove the crow white; or to such superstitious astrologers, as by their feigned figures and mathematical calculations make credulous fools beleive the Moon is made of green cheese; or to such upstart lawyers, as with their chop-logick and smooth tongues, can (though not covertly) yet tell a fair tale with small truth, and shadow that with a golden pretext, which being uncovered, is far worse then dirt or drois: Tush Pleudippo, satis est quod sufficit; leave then thy irksome study, and seek for renown by thy travel: Is it not better for thee as a Champion to undertake great challenges, then thus in a corner to wear out thy time by wearing of thy wits? Yes Pleudippo, and with this he set down his full resolution, to fit himself of horse and armour, and the third day following, unknown to the King or any of his court took his journey to follow forraign and strange adventures.

Now the day of his departure approaching no sooner did Phosphorus appear above the horizon in the orient, foreshewing that Phœbus with his golden and bright taper was ready to pull the shady curtains of misty night; but having all things in a readiness, mounted on a lusty courser, he took his vale of the British soyl. Thus posting toward the sea coast, he immediately imbarqued himself for the land of Almain, where the winde being favourable, within short time he safely arrived.

No sooner was this Aragonian landed on the coast of Almain, but he again betook himself to his travels: and thus coasted he the country, purposing to pass both high and low Almain; and so into Hungaria, Natolia, Phrygia, Persia, Ægypt, Asia minor and major, with all the nations belonging either to the Turk, Soldane, or Sophy. Thus travelled he by many fair towns, strong castles, and many delightful places, for the space of five dayes: now the

seventh

ſeventh day being come, riding in a low valley, having on the left hand a mighty mountain, and on the right hand a thick and lofty wood: thus paſſing on his way, he heard a ſmall voice with a ſorrowful lamentation, complain in this manner:

O unkinde deſtinies that have awarded me this doom: O diſaſterous chance that thus hath delivered me to death, and moſt inconſtant fortune that hath thus committed me into the hands of this ugly monſter, in whom is neither pitty nor piety. Thou devil incarnate, when will thy tyranny have an end? Thou filthy carkaſs without a conſcience, whereein ſome infernal ſpirit in ſtead of a ſoul doth inhabit: Thou fleſhly fury, begotten by ſome Incubus, and nurſed by ſome inchanting ſorcereſs, for ſome damned intent.

Pleudippo hearing this complaint, and perceiving the ſame to be before him, he touched his palfrey with the ſpur, who like the winged Pegaſus cut his way with ſuch expedition, that in a ſhort time he came to the place where the cry came, where looking about, he ſaw a mighty huge and deformed giant, who was even then entring into the wood, having a very beautiful lady under his lothſome arm: He was huge of ſtature, full nine cubits high, of body thick and corpulent, his hair was long and ſhaggy, with his ears dog-like hanging upon his ſhoulders, and having in his hand a huge mace of iron. Pleudippo ſeeing this uncomely and fearful monſter, called unto him in this wiſe: Diſcourteous and cruel villain, what maketh thee ſo to abuſe that excellent and beautiful lady? I adviſe thee to ſet her quickly out of thy hands, and deliver her into my cuſtody, or by heaven I ſwear, I will ſend thy damned ghoſt to the pitchy and dark Acharon, or elſe here loſe my life, as a true trophy of my intent.

The fierce giant hearing Pleudippo's ſpeeches, covering his face with a frown, ſhewing the cruelty of his diſpoſition, with a harſh voice he replied in this manner:

Thou vain-glorious and artificial braggart, is thy inſolency and pride ſo great, that thou dareſt to urge my patience with thy arrogant preſumption? I tell thee malapert boy, though to fight with thee will rather diſcredit me, then add any honour to me by obtaining the conqueſt of thee, (in regard I am able to deal with many in combate more abſolutely worthy then thy ſelf) yet thou proud skip-jack, that I may correct thee for thy lawcie behaviour and untamed head-ſtrong enterprize, and likewiſe give warning to others hereafter to bridle their malapertneſs, come I ſay, and I will ſoon give thy fleſh to the fowles of the ayr, and will quench my fury and thirſt, with carouſing healths in thy hearts bloud.

With this ſetting down the lady from under his arm, he made toward him with his mace. Pleudippo nothing danted with this his threatning bravado, leaped lightly off his horſe to encounter with him on foot, and being ſomewhat doubtful of the great fortitude of this deformed fiend, he purpoſed to keep him out at his ſpears point. Now began betwixt them two a ſharp and cruel bickering, the giant laying about him with his weighty and maſſey mace, and ſtriking ever at Pleudippo's lance: Now Pleudippo on the other ſide wary of his heavy blowes, ever kept his lance aloft, very ready upon the leaſt advantage to gore the giant; and skipping lightly here and there, the giants mace ſtill lighted on the ground, and Pleudippo before he could put it out lent him many dangerous and deep wounds ſo that the earth was coloured with a vermilion dye, with the abundance of bloud that iſſued out of the giants body, inſomuch that he began to wax faint with the loſs of the ſame.

But at length ſuch was his hap, that he hitting the lance with his ponderous mace the ſame ſhattered in pieces: then was Pleudippo forced to take him to his ſword, and the giant ſtriking at Pleudippo, he thinking to ſave himſelf from the blow with his ſhield, the ſame buckled

ſo

ſo under his furious ſtroke, that part of the force thereof lighted ſo upon his helm, that it made him fall down upon his knees. The giant ſeeing this, fetched about another blow, purpoſing therewith to have finiſhed the combat, but Pleudippo recovering himſelf ſhunned his blow, and let it fall upon the earth, and being incenſed with rage to behold the devilliſh fury of the giant, leaped toward him and ſtrook him upon the arm in ſuch ſort, as the heavy mace fell out of his hand; the giant ſeeing himſelf without a weapon, and his enemy ready with his piercing ſword to gore him to the heart, being faint with the expence of his blood, and in extream fear of preſent death, he fell down on his knees and yelded himſelf, humbly entreating Pleudippo to ſave his life.

Pleudippo being glad of this obtained victory, granted his requeſt, but with condition that ever after that he ſhould truly and diligently ſerve and obey him as his ſlave: the giant loth to loſe his life, ratified the ſame with an oath, ſwearing by all his gods truly and obediently to fulfill his command: which he faithfully did, as you ſhall hear hereafter.

This done, Pleudippo applyed certain ſalves to his wounds, which he carried about him for his own uſe, that were ſo precious as within two dayes the giants wounds were perfectly whole.

Now the lady ſeeing the giant Coſmodril ſubdued, being paſt fear of his further villany, came and fell down at Pleudippo's feet, uttering theſe ſpeeches. Worthy knight and the worlds wonder, ſole mirrour of our time, and the moſt magnanimous under the architecture of the heavens, whoſe prowes hath valiantly ſubjected the mighty, whoſe courage hath quelled the pride of the puiſſant, and whoſe conquering hand hath obtained the conqueſt of the unconquerable.

Pleudippo hearing her in theſe termes, taking her in his arms he lifted her from the ground: Fair lady

quoth he, instead of these undeserved praises, yeild prayers unto the almighty for your happy deliverance, and have not any further fear of the treachery of this terrible caitiff, for he that with cruelty hath brought you captive, shall with as much kindness recarry you to your friends. The lady fearing that Pleudippo upon Cosmodrils promise of obedience, he would have committed her carriage onely unto him. Valiant knight quoth she, if the deluge of tears distilling from the eyes of an unspotted virgin, may move you to pitty, or the penetrating prayers of a poor distressed lady procure you to compassion, commit not the surety of my life into his hands, whom none can escape with safety; whose greatest truth is but foul treason, whose faithful promises faithless practises, and whose truest deeds are but deep deceits.

But let me intreat you to take the pains to conduct me to my fathers house the duke of Brunswick, which is here within three leagues, and from whence this mischievous monster hath this day by force taken me; for I being walking in a garden nigh adjoyning to my fathers palace with two other ladies, he coming suddenly in, caught me up under his arm, as you here saw him, and brought me to this place, intending in this wood to have abused me at his pleasure, as he hath done many other ladies and damosels. Sundry of my fathers knights were by, and heard me cry when I was taken of the giant, but none so hardy as to resist his devillish determination: for so many are the ladies he hath dishonored and destroyed, the knights that he hath slaughtered, and the great massacres he hath committed, that not onely the whole dukedome are in fear of his tyranny, but generally all the parts of the empire.

Nay Madam quoth Pleudippo, it was never my intent to commit you to his custody, further then mine eyes were witnesses of his good behaviour towards your person. And with this Pleudippo mounting upon his courser, comman-

commanded Coſmodril to ſet Audrilla (for ſo was this lady called) behinde him, and he himſelf to follow on foot. Thus paſſed they along, until they came unto the dukes pallace, where Pleudippo and Coſmodril were no ſooner eſpied, but all the gates were immediately made faſt every one running into their houſes, for fear leſt Coſmodril ſhould have wrought their deſtruction, whoſe ſtrength they ſuppoſed a puiſſant army was not able to withſtand. Pleudippo being come to the gates, and finding them faſt barred, he commanded Coſmodril to knock, who with his foul fiſt gave ſuch ſtrokes upon the gate, as they ſounded thorow the pallace, but none within would give any anſwer; which Pleudippo ſeing, and being informed by Audrilla, that they within were terrified with the ſight of that terrible Coſmodril, he commanded him firſt to take the lady from her horſe, and then to depart and wait his comming next day, at a place which he appointed.

The giant immediately promiſed to perform his command, ſhewing himſelf very loving and obedient; the one, becauſe he ſo courteouſly ſaved his life; the other, in not daring to offend.

As ſoon as Coſmodril was gone, Pleudippo and Audrilla went further from the gates, that they within out at the windowes might deſery who they were. When they in the caſtle ſaw the dukes daughter in cuſtody of a ſtrange knight, and the giant departed, they knew not what to think; whether they might fear any further treachery or no, all of them holding it impoſſible that Coſmodril ſhould by force of any be brought into ſubjection.

Audrilla ſeeing them thus ſlow to give her entertainment, called to ſome which were upon the walles, ſaying: Why do you thus defer to open the gates? ſee you not that I am ſafely delivered from that dreadful and bebilliſh Coſmodril, and now under the protection of that magnanimous and Jove-born martialiſt? Why then delay you to open the gates?

These tydings of Audrilla strook such a sudden applause into their hearts, that in a confused manner they all ran thronging on heaps; some of them striving to open the gate, others who should first bear this wished tydings to the duke and dutchess, who having their hearts oppress with a multitude of cares for the loss of their daughter, sate in their chamber sighing out their sorrows.

Now no sooner did they hear of this fortunate event, but converting their labyrinth of grief into a world of joy, they in all haste came into the castle yard, where they met Pleudippo and Audrilla, who were already entred. The duke entertaining Pleudippo in his arms, and having given him his bien venu, he went forward to his daughter, which Audrilla seeing, falling upon her knees did her duti-ful reverence.

The duke and his dutchess having thus affectionately embraced their daughter, Audrilla immediately declared the manner of her delivery, with the whole circumstance as you have already heard: The duke understanding the whole discourse, again embracing Pleudippo in his arms uttered these speeches. Worthy knight, whose high vertues may well be imitated but never equalled, and whose unspeakable desert may for ever be remembred, but never sufficiently recompenced, not onely for redeeming our daughter out of the depth of her distress, and in conquering him whom we ever deemed invincible, but in freeing our country from the further frowardness of so furious a foe; which although we can never requite, yet will we be ever mindeful thereof, and not onely I but the Emperour himself, will be always ready to gratifie you in any reasonable request, and to aid and assist you in any ensuing danger.

Noble duke (quoth Pleudippo) my greatest and onely request is this, that it would please your highness to bestow upon me the honour of knighthood, which as yet I have not received by the hands of any. I am very willing

and

and ready quoth the duke, to beſtow the ſame upon one in whom are ſuch apparent ſignes of enſuing honours: and whoſe high merit hath already made him worthy of the ſame. What other ſpeeches here paſſed between them their kinde gratulations, their coſtly banquets, their proteſted amities, and their ſerious proteſtations of future friendſhip, leſt I ſhould be either tedious to the reader, or this my hiſtory ſhould grow to over great a volumne, I here for brevities ſake omit.

CHAP. VI.

How *Pleudippo* and his page travelling together, heard of the combate that was to be fought to clear the Lady *Albina*, whereupon he travelled to ſee it.

Leudippo having received that excellent order, the next morning (notwithſtanding the earneſt entreaties of the duke and dutcheſs to the contrary) he left the dukes palace and departed: and being come to the appointed place, he there found the giant Coſmodril very dutifully expecting his coming, ſhewing himſelf nothing ſorrowful for his loſt liberty, but rather rejoycing to ſee ſo ſuch a renowned gallant; who on the other ſide uſed him with great kindneſs and courteſie ſeeking by all meanes poſſible to bring him within the compaſs of ſome civil government.

Thus with eaſie journeys travelled they along, until they came within the country of Hungaria, and one evening taking up their Inn there; Pleudippo being ſet at ſupper, willed his boſſe to give his page ſuch meat as he deſired. Your page ſir (quoth he) ſhall: and thereupon he fetched a very deep ſigh. How now (quoth Pleudippo)

dippo, doth this more page drive you into any discontent, that thus suddenly you seem to sigh? Not the more Sir, answered the host, but your pages person: yet not his, neither; but his proposition putteth me in minde of another, which to remember, is more bitter unto my soul then bitterness it self: and not to me onely, but it bringeth an ayr of sorrow almost to all Hungaria, in that he is like to be the confusion of the rarest creature under the whole circuit of the heavens: and with this he declared the whole matter concerning Dorosa, Ferraro, and Albina, as is before expressed; the dukes accusation, the Kings sentence, Dorosa and Ferraro's departure, the giants over-bravings toward the Hungarian knights, discoursing every particular point of the same: And now to morrow, quoth he, is the last day, so that this excellent lady, without any trial of her cause, is like to suffer the laws extremity.

Pleudippo understanding by his tale that this Dorosa was his brother: Good friend quoth he, thou tellest me happy tydings, for this Dorosa must needs be the man in search of whom I make this troublesome travel, whom I feared had been long since consorted with the dead. But is it possible quoth he, to be at the court to see the event of this matter? Very hardly replied the host, except you should travel all night, for it is more then twenty leagues.

Surely quoth Pleudippo, were I in place the vertuous lady should first see me conquered, before she should lose her life for lack of a combatant, were it but out of the respect I bear to Dorosa, who it should seem hath been a well-willer of hers, though not farther then both their honours might allow. And can you quoth he, but procure me a guide, I will use the uttermost of my endeavour to be at the court before the latest hour be expired.

The host hearing his honourable speeches, the true bredges of his magnanimous minde; and seeing what a deformed giant diligently attended upon him, answered in this manner:

Mallant

Valiant and brave minded knight, rather then ſo divine a Princeſs ſhould dye for defect of ſuch a one as your ſelf, or you loſe ſuch endleſs renown as is to be reaped by this victory, I will undertake my ſelf to be your guide; not doubting but we ſhall be there before the Princeſs be executed, and if no other undertaketh her quarrel, it will be time enough for you to try your fortune againſt the giant. With this he commanded one of the ſlaves of the hoſtry, to give their horſes provender, and prepare them fit for their travel.

Pleudippo having thanked his friendly hoſte for his forwardneſs herein, called Coſmodril and commanded him quietly to paſs through the country to the town of Dording, which was the ready way toward Polonia, whether the hoſte certified Pleudippo, if was ſuppoſed Ferraro and Doroſa were gone, and there to abide until his comming from the court, ſtraightly charging him not to abuſe any of that country. Thus ſupper being ended, Pleudippo and his hoſte betook themſelves to travel, where we will leave them under Olimpus darkſome ſhade to ſpeak of Albina, now fully expecting her ſpeedy death.

CHAP. VII.

blow at the laſt hour of the day when the Princeſs *Albina* ſhould have been executed, *Plendippo* came to the liſt, who was taken for *Doroſa* himſelf, and undertaking the combat, obtained the victory: How *Mordeno* Duke of Perenna was condemned to dye, who before he departed, confeſſed his treaſon. And how afterward *Plendippo* acknowledged himſelf to be brother to *Doroſa*.

THe giant, as you heard before, being in the field; over-daring and out-braving the Hungarian knights with the crabbedneſs of his ill-favoured countenace; he continued in this manner raging and railing, according to the wonted cruelty of his crooked and uncivil diſpoſition, until the laſt day, againſt which time a ſcaffold was prepared at the end of the liſt for the execution of the banquiſhed: at the one end whereof was erected a gallery for Albina and her Ladies all hanged over with black, in token of their great ſadneſs, during this ſorrowful time: at the other end of the ſcaffold ſate Mordeno with many of his familiar friends, with joy expecting the preſent end of the beauteous Princeſs Albina. At one of the ſides of the liſt ſate the King and his nobles, all clothed in mourning attyre, ſorrowing at the fore-paſſed cenſure; becauſe the duke had ſo much liberty as to produce ſuch an ugly monſter for his combattant. On the other ſide over againſt the King, were placed for the judges of the field, an ancient knight called Brantus, being the Kings near kinſman, and with him the county of Turrain.

THus continued they in the field all the ſad ſun-ſhine of this black diſmal day, ſtill feeding themſelves with a hope

hope that ſome worthy and valiant knight would undertake the Princeſs quarrel. But now the latteſt hour was approached, and their further hope utterly dash'd into deſpair, no champion all this while once daring to adventure to purchaſe her redemption: Which the giant ſeeing, braved out theſe ſpeeches. Come ye baſtard knights of Hungaria, is there none of you ſo hardy that dare crack a ſpear in the defence of this minion? to your cowardize ſo great that you are daunted with a look? as is her miſdemeanour and fault ſo manifeſt, that you diſtruſt the rightfulneſs of her cauſe? Come, come, the time is expired, bring her to the block, why delay you any longer? ſee you not that the deſtinies have determined this to be the end of her dayes, and fortune hath decreed her doom.

The woful Princeſs hearing theſe ſpeeches, being ſurcharged with ſorrow, and her heart loaded with vulture griefs, and having the characters of greif pourtrayed in her browes, ouer-whelming her face with an ocean of tears, weeping her eyes dry, and her garments wet, fate reſting herſelf in theſe her extream paſſions, ready to have yeilded up the ghoſt. The King likewiſe now feeling the latteſt moment, and all further expectation in vain, with a ſorrowful heart was ready to command her execution and to depart, ſeeing delay without hope did but aggravate their ſorrows. As he was thus ready to ſpeak, they heard a trumpet ſound, and looking about they ſaw an armed knight almoſt at the end of the liſt, with a tall ſquire before him ſounding an alarm; this put the King and his nobles in hope of a champion to undertake the combat.

This knight comming to the end of the liſt, alighted off his horſe, and giving him to his ſquire, he entred the ſame on foot, and paſſing forward untill he came againſt the gallery where the King ſate, after obedience done, demanded the conditions of the field. The Judges anſwered, that there were no other but that if the giant remained vanquiſhed, both he and the dame immediately

muſt loſe their lives, and the like for the Princeſs Albina and her defendant.

Then Pleudippo deſired to ſpeak with the lady, to the end he might underſtand her minde in this action: upon this he was immediately conducted to the place where Albina was, and comming toward her lifting up the bever of his helm, he ſaluted her with a courtly and decent behaviour: Fair lady quoth he, the hearing of this ſevere and cruel ſentence againſt your perſon, and the ſhameleſs villany of this deformed caitiff, hath made me (with longing deſire to ſee the combate accompliſhed) to take unaccuſtomed journeys in my wearieſome travels; and ſince fortune hath permitted my arrival even at the hour of tadnes, where ſeing the ſordid cowardize of your Hungarian knights, I have reſolved (bring both by oath and duty bound thereunto) to adventure my life againſt this preſumptuous and inſolent peaſant: Now divine Princeſs, not miſtruſting the truth of your cauſe, if it pleaſe you to refer the ending thereof unto a younglings ſword, I will either free you from this untimely, and as I judge undeſerved death, or conſort my ſelf with you in your death.

Albina hearing the kinde ſpeeches of this her new come champion, and noting the phyſiognomy of his face; ſhe ſuppoſed him though not the ſubſtance, yet a perfect pattern of her beloved Doroſa, and therewith replied in this manner: Valiant and courteous knight, my life which is now on the lateſt period, and my higheſt hope of delivery, being now ready to come to a moſt ſhameful and ignominious death; ſhould I now refuſe your aid in this my ſo great extremity, I might very rightly be reputed as acceſſary to my own miſfortune. Therefore I do refer my ſafety wholly unto your vertue and fortitude, and the trial of my innocency to your ſword, and future good fortune, diſtruſting the ſequel of my cauſe ſo much the leſs, by how much you reſemble that heroick gentleman, the moſt excellent among men, that renowned Doroſa; with whom

I am falſly accuſed to be unchaſte. Go in the name of God, truth is on your ſide, and while you decide the controverſie by blowes, my virgin prayers ſhall not ceaſe to penetrate the heavens for your happy ſucceſs.

Having ended her ſpeech Pleudippo returned again into the liſts, and having his helm ſtill open, all the people preſent, were fully perſwaded that it was Doroſa; and Mordeno looking upon his face muttered out theſe ſpæches to one of his next familiars. Dear friend, what hope now remaineth of the victory, ſince my accurſed enemy is come in perſon to undertake the combate? this I ſay is that accurſed Doroſa, whoſe honour I think all the devils in hell have conſpired to make famous. The giant being mounted upon a mighty Barbarian courſer, looking upon Pleudippo, come proud gallant (quoth he) art thou he that will loſe thy life in the defence of this wanton, and here finiſh the laſt acte of thy dayes under my conquering hand? poor fond fool, this day will I give thy fleſh to the wormes of the earth for thy preſuming folly; and hers to the fowls of the ayr for the filthineſs of her fact.

Pleudippo hearing theſe revarguous termes, an ocean of angry blood ſpreading it ſelf in his face; thou monſter (quoth he) of mankinde and enemy of honeſty, thou foul carkaſs filled with fury; what thinkeſt thou to bear it away with thy daunting bravery? I tell thee inſolent, deformed, vain-glorious, and ſhameleſs villain, I am none of them that are danted with thy devilliſh ſpæches, or frighted with fear of thy foul miſhapen lineaments. But fellow to that Doroſa (who is by thy duke falſly accuſed, and his quarrel by thee contrary to right, traiterouſly maintained) though not his equal, yet a ſtem of the ſame ſtock, his brother by birth, and one though not ſo ſtrong, yet every way as reſolute. Alight then thou over-daring rake-hell, for I rather deſire to canvaſs thee on foot, then to combate with thee on horſe-back; not that I dread thy valour, but that my paſtrey is already weary with long travel.

O excellent bragart (quoth the giant) what thinkeſt thou to daunt my courage by claiming kindred with Roſa, or to make thy part good on foot, when thy heart trembleth to behold me on horſe-back? and with this he alighted. Come (quoth he) thou proud and ſawcy prince, and though thou canſt not rule thy tongue, yet ſhall thou ſee that I can bridle thy manhood. With this the Herald having ſounded his trumpet commanded the champions to do their devoir. The giant was armed all in braſs, and caſting away his ſpear, betook himſelf to a huge pole-axe, the iron-work whereof weighed near fifty pounds; he was of ſtature not fully equal with the giant Coſmodril. Pleudippo having his lance in his hand, and his good ſword faſt girt to his harneſs, his ſhield upon his arm, thus entred the combat. At the firſt encounter, the giant ſeeming to make long war, ſtrook with ſuch vigor at Pleudippo, as he purpoſed with his firſt ſtroke to have finiſhed the fight. Pleudippo on the other ſide being filled with valour, and therewithal willing to ſhew his great ſtrength, did bear the ſame upon his ſhield, which was of ſuch ſoft mettal, as he cut into the ſame more then a foot, which cauſed him that he could not very ſpeedily recover his weapon, and Pleudippo carefully taking the advantage of the fight, gave him ſuch a gird with his lance under the skirts of his armour, that the javelin end was ſeen behinde at his back, and his corrupt blood all ſtained the earth with a purple gore: this ſtroke renewed the ſpirits of the King and nobles, all knowing that if the combate ſhould continue long, this effuſion of blood muſt needs make the giant faint and feeble: this wound alſo made the giant more wary, and to covet what he might to cut Pleudippo's lance, and offering a blow, Pleudippo thinking to ward it as he did the other, the giant falſifying the ſame, cut Pleudippo's lance quite aſunder in the middeſt, that he was therewithal forced to take him to his ſword: now begun the fight to be very furious on both ſides, hard to judge to

whom

whom this victory would incline: the giant laying on ſuch load with his ponderous weapon, as he had almoſt hacked Pleudippo's ſhield in pieces: he again receiving his ſtrokes, gave him ſuch blowes with his ſword by often entring within him, that all his armour was almoſt hewed in pieces.

Now the giant perceiving Pleudippo's ſhield ſo mangled, purpoſed with one blow to leave him without his ward: but Pleudippo wary of the ſame, ſtepped aſide, and his polear entred into the earth more then a foot, and therewith entring upon him, ſtrook him in ſuch ſort upon his knée, where the joints of his armour met, as he parted his leg from his body, and therewith the giant fell to the earth. With this there was ſuch a ſhout and hurling up of caps, as Pleudippo well perceived what content this caused in the hearts of all the people preſent: but the giant being now upon the earth, he quickly ſet his foot upon his breaſt and ſevered his head from his ſhoulders, leaving his curſed body welt'ring in his own blood: and going forward to the Judges, he demanded that the conditions of the combate might be performed.

With this the King deſcended from his royal ſeat, and embraced him in his arms: Valiant knight (quoth he) whoſe haughty prowes hath not onely freed my daughter from the implacable fury of untimely death, but likewiſe her ſorrowful mother, almoſt dead with the extremity of grief, and plunged in the deepeſt ocean of perplexities, thou haſt cauſed phenix-like to live anew, and to regrét again the wonted pleaſure of her former content. Well mayeſt thou be the brother of that courageous Doroſa, like him in perſon, and not unlike in valour, and both of you the main pyramides of Hungaria's good. And with what kindneſs we accept the ſame, ſo pleaſe it you to abide in court you ſhall well perceive: And may I but once ſée him again, he ſhall fully underſtand what a volumn of ſorrow this ſevere ſentence hath produced to my ſoul.

With

With this was the duke of Porenna committed to the executioner, where seeing nothing before his eys but present death, being now plunged in the profundity of calamity, confessed the whole truth of his former treachery; which as soon as he had finished, his head was taken from off his shoulders.

Now the day having exchanged his vesture, and Cinthia shined with her borrowed light, the onely grace of the heavens, the King having likewise embraced his daughter, and with tears of joy bedewed her snow-white cheeks, lamented that he was so credulous, as upon the dukes surmised accusation to give so harsh a censure: and she again humbly entreated his majesty upon her knees, that all those former occasions of sorrow might on all parts be buried in oblivion. Then they went all together to the court, generally applauding this happy victory; the King leading Pleudippo in the one hand, and Albina in the other: where the Queen (before with extream woe lay languishing upon her bed, bolleying forth her sighes unto the heavens, now) with the unexpected newes of the giants overthrow, Albinaes innocency, and the dukes confession, she was so ravisht in spirit with a sudden extasie of joy, that forgetting her former sickness, she left her bed and came and met them in the castle-yard. What kinde gratulations, loving embracings, and surpassing joy there was then among them, let them judge which in their deepest distress have had such sudden receipts of unexpected comfort. But here the time passeth away, suppose they have satisfied themselves with their princely dainties, glutted their ears with sweet contenting musick, and passed the night in silver sleeps and quiet refreshing slumbers.

Chap. 8.

CHAP. VIII.

How King Androgio made Pleudippo duke of Porenna, and gave him all Mordeno's lands, offices and caſtles; and yet he deſired to travel in ſearch of his brother Doroſa: and how the King writ to Doroſa, and ſent it by him. The tokens Albina ſent to Doroſa, and how Pleudippo reſcued Doroſa, Feraro, and Corillus, from the Tartarians.

But as ſoon as Aurora had ſpread her ſelf in the eaſt, the King ariſing from his royal couch, created Pleudippo duke of Porenna, and freely impoſed upon him all thoſe poſſeſſions which before belonged unto Mordeno, and now faln into the Kings hands by his late condition; which Pleudippo did willingly receive, as, Quis niſi mendicinops, oblatum reſpuat aurum: yet did he anſwer the King, that he would not any way defer his travels, until he had found Doroſa: wherewith the King ſeemed no way diſcontent, hoping by his means his ſon Feraro would the ſooner return, whoſe preſence he now greatly deſired. This done, Albina hearing the cauſe of Pleudippo's vowed travel, comming unto him, worthy knight (quoth ſhe) ſeeing you are thus minded to perſever in your travel, although we eſpecially wiſh your company in my fathers court, yet ſince you intend chiefly to go in queſt of your Princely brother, unto whom we are equally indebted as to your ſelf, we cannot deſire to withhold you from any ſuch vertuous endeavour: therefore with my hearty commendations unto his perſon, I moſt earneſtly entreat you, that if luckily you arrive in his company, you deliver him from me this ring and handkerchief. In the ring was engraven:

One hearts and minde in weal and woe,
Love laſts with life, deſpight of foe.

In the handkerchief, with letters of gold was embroidered theſe verſes:

From fear of death, and depth of diſcontent;
From waves of wo, combin'd with languiſhment;
From dire miſ fame, and jealous fond ſuſpect;
Freed in deſpight of envie's foul object,
I reſt; yet reſting thus with grief I dye:
Wanting the wight, my ſouls whole treaſury.

Pleudippo with a courteous behaviour receiving the ſame, and diligently noting the rare beauty and modeſt behaviour of the Princeſs, inwardly proteſted, ſhe was the moſt erq iſite creature that ever was produced by nature, and the onely paragon of all pure perfections. This and much other chat being ended, and Pleudippo preparing all things neceſſary for his travel, taking his farewel of the Queen, Albina, and the reſt of the ladies, he departed. The King himſelf in perſon, with divers of his nobles accompanied him full four miles; where after many thanks and courtly embracings, the King deliuered him this letter: with ſundry other things in charge to Doroſa and his ſon Feraro. Afterwards he returned to the court, and left Pleudippo to the good ſucceſs of his vowed travels.

To the magnanimous and moſt worthy Doroſa Prince of Aragon, health and happineſs.

Doroſa, If our entertainment were not anſwerable to the dignity of your birth, blame our ignorance: If I have puniſhed without cauſe, I now cry *peccavi*; and confeſſing of my fault is ſome part of ſatisfaction: If my ſevere ſentence paſſed the bonds of Princely piety, let it ſuffice that the ſorrow of my

ſoul

ſoul for the ſame hath been equal; executing the ſharpneſs of my ſevere judgement upon that perjured caitiffs curſed carkaſs. And to conclude, if there be that affection which you affirm, grounded upon your honour and honeſty, I will not any further croſs your content with cruelty, but let *Albina* with the Turkiſh dowry be thine for ever. Thus wiſhing your ſpeedy return to our court, with our hearty commendations: farewel.

Androgio, Rex Hung.

Now Pleudippo being mounted upon the brave Barbarian palfrey, which belonged to the late conquered giant, made ſuch expedition that ere Phœbus was declined to the weſt, he was arrived at the town of Dording; where he found Coſmodril his page diligently attending his comming ſhewing great content and apparent ſignes of inward joy at his ſo happy return: there again refreſhing himſelf, and providing horſe and armour for the giant, the next morning being both of them now well mounted, they with good ſpeed took their journey towards Polonia; within the borders whereof, within ſhort time they arrived, where they were no ſooner entred, but they eſpied three knights journeying along before them, who even on a ſudden were ſet upon by a whole troop of armed ſouldiers, three of them being on horſe, and all the reſt on foot: Now at the firſt encounter they over-threw the three horſmen, turning them topſie-turvey over their horſe cruppers, whereupon the foot-men enironed them ſo about, that they were forced lively to leap from off their horſes and betake themſelves to their ſwords, aſſailing their enemies with ſuch undanted reſolutions, that in a ſhort time they had ſlain very many of that unruly multitude; but eſpecially one of them, who almoſt at every ſtroke ſent one or more of his aſſailants to conſort with Pluto in the fiery Phlegeton. Theſe knights were Doroſa, Ferraro, and Corillus; who as you heard before ſtaying for the

recovery of Ferraro, were here overtaken of Pleudippo in this perilous bickering. Pleudippo regarding the great valour of these knights, resolving to yeild them speedy aid, spurred his palfrey, who feeling the prick, hastening his steps more swiftly then the winged wind, even in a thought he was among them; where entring with his sword drawn, he laid on such fatal blowes, that whomsoever he hit, his strongest armour could not save his life, so that in a moment of time he had sent seven of those barbarous infidels to pay their fraught to the sturdy ferry-man of Styx.

Dorosa seeing the demeanour of this new-come knight, scorning that his former praises should be eclipsed by the desert of any, redoubled his blowes with such vigour, that wheresoever his sword lighted, neither armour nor flesh could repel the force thereof. Ferraro and Corillus although they were both sore wounded, likewise behaved themselves very honourably in this unequal conflict, so that by this time more then threescore Tartarians had written their lives legend in the Polonian dust; and the giant Cosmodril hastening after Pleudippo, was now entred among them, beating down with his huge mace whosoever resisted his puissance. The Tartarians seeing the great fortitude of this furious Cosmodril, and the matchless valour of the other knights, and perceiving more then half their company to be slaughtered, turned their backs and fled. The knights not deserring to commit any outragious massacre, permitted them quietly to depart.

Chap. 9.

CHAP. IX.

How after the conflict ended, and their enemies vanquiſhed, Doroſa gives Pleudippo unknown many thanks. Doroſa craveth his name, upon which they come to know one another. Pleudippo delivereth him King Androgio's letter, and Albinas tokens, and what happened in their travels.

When Doroſa ſaw that they were now freed from their enemies, he came to Pleudippo and began in this manner: Worthy knight (quoth he) ſeeing you in our deepeſt diſtreſs have by your courage ranſomed our lives, for queſtionleſs without your timely aid, ſome of us if not all, had been ere this conſorted with the dead, that we may therefore know unto whoſe deſert we are thus deeply indebted, the better hereafter to requite your kindneſs, let me crave your name, and of what country you are.

Sir quoth Pleudippo, ſhould I deny ſuch a courteous requeſt, to him that is the onely flower of chivalry and prowes, and with whom I deſire further familiarity and friendſhip, you might rather repute me foolish, then accept of my ſociety; and more worthily condemn me of diſcourteſie, then commend me for my kindneſs.

Know then worthy ſir, my name (which as yet I never denied either for fear or falſhood) is called Pleudippo. Doroſa hearing him recite his name, breathed out a far fetch'd ſigh; with this Pleudippo breaking off his tale, ſir quoth he, with your leave, let me requeſt to know the cauſe which maketh you thus to ſigh: nothing qd. Doroſa, but thinking of a brother of mine ſo named, which long ſince was made away by treaſon. Sir (quoth Pleudippo) though herein

I may rightly seem more bold then wise upon a sudden conceit which is even now entred into my head, let me be so much favoured by you as to see your face. Dorosa willing to satisfie him in this request, presently lifted up the bever of his helm. Pleudippo looking earnestly upon his face, immediately supposed he beheld his own phisiognomy, as in a glass, and being now fully perswaded of that whereof before he stood in doubt, taking him in his arms he said; See here Dorosa thy brother Pleudippo for whom thou sighest, who is more joyful for thy presence, then ever thou wert pensive for the loss of his person: How happy was I to travel this way, wherein I have found him after whom, and in search of whom I would have compassed the globe of the earth; and no less happy was I in comming to them at this dangerous and unexpected season; and therupon he lifted up his bever.

Dorosa who all this while stood amazed at these strange accidents, looking stedfastly upon him, and by his former speeches being assured he was his brother, embracing him in his arms, was so overjoyed that he held him fast, not being able to utter one word.

Feraro and Corillus seeing this dumb show, approached near unto them, to see what sudden joy had thus surprized their senses. No sooner were they come, but Dorosa taking Corillus by the hand, See Corillus quoth he, who in this skirmish is luckily arrived to our succour. Corillus gazing upon his face, is not this (quoth he) the noble Pleudippo your lost brother: yea, it is the same, replied Dorosa: Oh blessed fortune (quoth Corillus) that after such sower sawce of discontent hath courteously conducted me into their company, whose absence hath been the onely cause of my extream care. Which said, Dorosa declared to Pleudippo who Corillus was, whereupon they in like manner with all kindness embraced each other; and Feraro understanding the knight to be Dorosa's brother, and not second to him in prowess and magnanimity, being glad of the society

of

of such Jove born martialists, with like content applauded their fortunate meeting.

Now to continue their no mean joyes, Pleudippo taking forth King Androgio's letter, and the Princess Albinaes ring and handkerchief, delivered the same to Dorosa; also not forgetting the Kings, Queens, and Albinaes commendations to Feraro. Afterwards he declared all the accidents in Hungaria since their departure; the manner of the combate, the extream hazard of the Princess, his conquest of the giant, Mordeno's execution and confession, the exceeding joy of the King and Queen, with the general plausites of all the nobles: and lastly, how the King of his free bounty had created him duke of Porenna; leaving no point of all those matters unreherst. Now to judge in what manner these amorous Princes had their ears surprized with sweet content is impossible; neither can the most eloquent utter, much less can my rude and more then half wearied pen, in any reasonable method express: But these their unaccustomed joys being ben in the full, they all having dressed their wounds, passed forward on their journey, which with large discourses of their former fortunes, they so delightfully walked, that within short time they were quietly come to the town of Belcar, which was within four leagues of the famous city of Cattay, where both the King kept his court, and also the camp lay: These warlike Princes and the giant arriving there, understood the town of Belcar to be already in subjection of the enemy, and kept onely by a band of Muscovians, therefore they resolved to enter sodainly in at the gates, and set upon them; and if they failed not in this enterprize to keep themselves there close, until such time as the main armies were joyned together; or till they heard further news from the city. Having thus determined, Dorosa and Pleudippo hastening before Feraro Cornillus and Cosmodril, came to the gate which they found open, but guarded with about ten of the Muscovians: Dorosa demanded of the guard, whether they

they two being knights errant, might have quiet lodging within the town? yes (quoth the guard) if so it be you will take your oaths to aid and assist the grand Muscovian, and the mighty Doroka of Tartaria, in their wars against the Polonian King. Wars (quoth Pleudippo) tush there is nothing can please us better: and with this sparring his palfrey he sprung in at the gate, and with his lance thrust him that made this answer in such sort through the body, that he fell dead to the earth: and Dorosa entring after him, served another in the same sort; which the rest seeing, came all eight upon them: but little prevailed their weapons, for at five strokes five of them lay weltring in their own blood, and the other three seeing their fellowes have such sound payment fled into the town; and one being upon the wall seeing this sudden slaughter, beat an alarm. Now by this time was Feraro, Corillus, and Cosmodril come within the town: and the Muscovians hearing this sudden alarm, with their whole company pressed toward the gate; Cosmodril seeing them not above two hundred, and all of them before him in the street, alighted from his wearied horse, and taking his iron mace in his hand, worthy Princes quoth he, stand back a while and breath, and see how poor Cosmodril can wield his weapon among the ranks of his enemies. With this stepping forward, he entertained the Muscovians in such sort, as he sometime beat down two, sometimes three, and sometimes five or six at a stroke and always as many as came within his reach. The Princes beholding this great force of the giant, they all admired at his puissance: and Pleudippo protested if fortune had not favoured him in his attempt, he might well have combatted with him, but never conquered him. Soon were the Muscovians more then half slain, and the other despairing of victory turned their backs and fled: which Dorosa seeing, sparring his palfrey in the turning of a hand he was got before them to the other gate, where keeping the same he encountred them so rudely, and Pleudippo,

Feraro

Ferraro and Corillus followed after them so eagerly, that within less then a quarter of an hour there was none left that could complain of his payment.

Thus having dispatched their enemies, they searched about in the houses, to see if any more of them were lurking in their dens. Thus searching about, at length they found one which had a hurt in his leg, by reason whereof he could not come into this skirmish with the other. This fellow seeing them enter, falling upon his knees humbly entreated them to save his life. Fellow (quoth Ferraro) declare unto us at large all the events that have already happened in these wars, and in what state both the Polonians and enemies now remain, with what forces they have on either side, and thou shalt not onely save thy life, but if thou prove faithful, shall no way reap any further dammage. Worthy conquerours (qo. he) in these wars already past there have been fought two main battels, besides many other skirmishes; in both which the Polonians have had the worst, and with great loss have been forced to retyre within their wals: The strength of the mighty Doroka is full 50000, among whom are seven most fierce and cruel giants; and the grand Duke's army is full 80000. The Polonians (as it is supposed) are not above 40000, and they are very sore wearied, and many of them already wounded: But now this other day, is the marquess of Rino with 20000 Aragonians arrived to their aid, and this is all their strength. Now upon thursday next they have appointed the third field, in which if the Polonians lose the victory, it is not possible for them any longer to resist our forces. The Princes hearing this, purposed to refresh themselves within this town until both armies were joyned, and then suddenly to set upon their enemies.

CHAP. X.

Of the great battel between the Tartarians and Polonians, and how by the means of Dorosa, Pleudippo, Feraro, Cerillus, and Cosmodril, the Polonians obtained the victory.

THus they continued until the day assigned for the fight; which was no sooner come, but these knights managing their Arundel-like coursers, they took their way toward the city of Carray, and being come within two miles, they well perceived by the alarms of drums and trumpets, that the commanders had already joyned their forces: thus hastening forward with their winde-winged steeds, they immediately espied how the armies were met and joyned in battel in two places; the Tartarians and Aragonians encountring each other, and the Muscovians and Polonias in a sharp and cruel conflict. The Princes seeing this, were in doubt which way to take; but Dorosa remembring the old proverb, Non sapit qui non sibi sapit; thought it best for him to aid his own countrimen and subjects. And with this they all rushed upon their enemies keeping themselves close to succour each other in all ensuing dangers, overthrowing and beating down both horse and men to the ground, whosoever came their way; sending whole Miriads of those barbarous Tartarians to accompany Pluto in his infernal region, and eternizing their names through the haughtiness of their valours. Now begun the battel to be fierce and cruel, every one striving to excel the other by their resolute endeavours: on the other side the Tartarian giants being placed in the fore-front of the battel, wrought great damage to the Aragonians, daunting their courages in such sort with their mighty strokes, that they were nothing forward to encounter their assailants; which Pleudippo seeing, willing Cosmodril to attend upon him, they two leaving

bing Doroſa, Feraro, and Corillus, fetching their circumference, entred among the Aragonians: Pleudippo ſeeing one of the Tartarian giants which made great ſlaughter, ſet his ſpear to his reſt, and with an high voice crying out, Aragonia, Aragonia, he encountred this giant with ſuch puiſſance, that at the firſt ſtroke he fell dead to the earth. Coſmodril following his lord to an inch, laid on ſuch heavy load, that the Tartarians were glad on all ſides to free his paſſage: this ſtirred up ſuch courage among the Aragonians, that they preſſed ſo faſt upon their enemies, that they not able to ſuſtain their ſtrokes, were forced to give ground.

And Doroſa made ſuch havock among them on the other ſide, making ſuch a lane among their ranks, that Pleudippo and he were almoſt met together in the midſt of the field: where being aſſailed by one of the giants that guarded the mighty Doroko's perſon, at the third ſtroke he ſealed him ſuch a paſport, that his ſoul might quietly take his paſſage to the devil without any contradiction; and going forward joyned with Doroko himſelf, whom he had there ſlain, had he not preſently been aided by two other giants, and a multitude of knights and other ſouldiers, who preſſed upon him with great violence. Feraro very valiantly ſet upon one of theſe giants, whom after a long and cruel fight, he in the end ſlew.

By this time was the giant Coſmodril got through his enemies, unto the place where Doroſa was thus fighting: and ſeeing one of the giants make a blow at him, before the ſame alighted, he ſtrook him in ſuch ſort, that both his helm and head were battered in pieces: yea, Doroſa, Pleudippo, Feraro, Coſmodril and Corillus, this day ſo proved their valours upon the carkaſſes of their enemies, that all the earth was mantled with a ſkarlet die, and one could ſcarce move his foot but he was ready to tread upon one ſlaughtered body or other. Thus remained the battel with ſuch cruelty all this diſmal day, that of the Tartarians were ſlain four giants, and full thirty thouſand knights and ſouldiers; and

of the Aragonians were ſlain onely three thouſand. Now the ſun declining faſt toward the Antipodes, ſhrowding himſelf with his wearied horſes in the weſt, the Tartarians feeling themſelves not able any longer to endure the fury of this fight, turned their backs and fled, ſheltring themſelves amongſt the Muſcovian ranks; but by this time Olympus ſhadowed with the nights black curtain, enforced theſe warriours to leave their wearied weapons and with-hold their hands from committing any further maſſacres.

The King of Polonia was this day ſore diſmayed, having ſlain in his army full ten thouſand: but hearing of the diſcomfiture of the Tartarians, he reputed his loſs the leſs, in that of his enemies were ſlain full four for one, beſide four of the giants had this day ended their lives.

The enemies being retired to their camp, the Tartarians proteſted among themſelves that the ſtrange knights were devils or ſome infernal furies which in the likeneſs of men contended with them this day for the palm of victory.

Now the Polonians and Aragonians being entred into the city, and among them the unknown martialiſts, who took up their quarters in an Inn, determining not to go to the court unleſs the King requeſted them. Now no ſooner was the Polonian King and Aragonian General met at the palace, but the Marquels immediately declared the high proweſs and magnanimity of the ſtrange knights, and how with them entred a moſt terrible and huge giant; affirming them (as the truth was) to be the cauſers of their fortunate ſucceſs; greatly admiring what they ſhould be, the rather, becauſe they choſe rather to ſuccour the Aragonians then the Polonians.

CHAP. XI.

How the King after the battel was ended, ſendeth for the five ſtrangers; who the next day went to the Court: How Pandippo fell in love with Lucibella, and Ferard with Flermia: And how the marqueſs of Rino knew Corillus.

SOone as the marqueſs had ended his diſcourſe, the King conſidering that theſe knights being ſtrangers, if he ſhould not nobly entertain them they might deſert him in this his greateſt neceſſity; therefore commanded ſundry knights diligently to ſearch out whereſoever they had taken up their quarters; and willed them in his name courteouſly to entreat them to come to the court. Theſe knights when they had a while enquired at length found them out; and having kindely ſalute them according to their charge, earneſtly requeſted them to go with them to the court. The Princes by reaſon of their wearineſs and wounds, which were not yet dreſſed deſired the meſſengers in their behalf, humbly to crave his Majeſties pardon for that night; faithfully promiſing the next day to attend upon him as his moſt dutiful ſervants, and as ſuch as have devoted their lives in defence of his perſon and dignity.

The knights being returned to the King, declared at large the whole effect of their anſwer: And quoth one of them, theſe are almoſt of an equal age, the eldeſt of them being not above four and twenty years of age, being alſo as beautiful and well accompliſht gentlemen as ever any eyes beheld. And ſurely quoth another of them, there is two of them ſo like as they muſt needs be brethren, and in my opinion both of them in favour ſo much reſemble the excellent and beautiful Lady Flermia, as they muſt needs be either

ther of her kin, or else appointed especially by favor and personage to help her whom they so much resembled. and to the youngest of these two is the great giant a dutiful and obedient servant. These speeches bred great admiration in the King and all his nobles, and great longing in Flermia and Lucibella, to have a sight of the adventurous gallants. After this they all seated themselves to supper, and afterward spending some time in talk, they all went to bed.

Now the next appearing, these Princes being mindful of their evenings promise, attyring themselves in the best manner they could, onely taking their swords with them, they passed through the city toward the court: Dorosa and Feraro going before, and Pleudippo with Corillus after, and behinde Pleudippo followed the giant Cosmodril bearing his shield. In this seemly equipage marched they to the Kings palace, where being come within the court-yard, they presently met Lucibella and Flermia, attended on by a brave company of courtly ladies. Pleudippo fixing his eyes upon Lucibella, stood amazed at her excellent feature, and Feraro looking upon Flermia, was almost ravished with the splendor of her surpassing beauty. The ladies not being yet right against them, perceiving how earnestly they gazed on their beauties, covered their snow-white faces with such a vermilion die, as Aurora gracing the orient with her silver brightness, seemed not half so glorious.

The Princes comming against them, with a courteous demeanour toward them passed along; and being once past, the ladies desirous to have some further knowledge of these valiant worthies, returned back to hear their conference with the King and his nobles. His Majesty having intelligence of their comming, arose forthwith from his royal seat, and came to meet them in the hall, where having entertained them with courtly embracings, the marquess of Rino looking upon Dorosa and Pleudippo, he supposed he saw the lively images of the deceased Fregosa: As he was in this dilemma he cast his eyes upon Corillus whom he perfectly

ſecretly knew; then comming to him with friendly amity he embracing him in his arms, greatly rejoycing at their ſo happy meeting, began thus: Dear friend, I pray you from whence are theſe worthy knights your companions, in whom appeareth the very favour of our laſt Princes, and a true pattern of that magnanimity that was in old Fragoſa? Truly quoth Corillus, they are not the likeneſs but the very ſubſtance, and rightly may we ſay; Qualis pater, talis filius: for they do not onely reſemble him in prowels and valour, but in all other gifts of nature. And with this he declared unto him all the manner of their meetings.

CHAP. XII.

How the marqueſs of Rino would have crowned Doroſa King of Aragon in Polonia: The exceeding joy of Flermia when ſhe came to the knowledge of her brethren: And the Muſcovian Duke having freſh ſupplies, defied the Polonians.

NOw the marqueſs in his own judgment approving theſe ſpeeches for truth, and ravisht with extream content at this happy event, with apparent ſignes of joy came to Doroſa as to his ſoveraign, humbling himſelf on his knee: Worthy Prince quoth he, whoſe loſs hath been almoſt the ruine of all Aragonia, and the onely diſcontent that hath diſturbed our quiet, whom ſeeing it hath pleaſed the fates to preſerve, I will not onely reſigne my title of grand General into your Highneſs's hands, but here immediately ſet the diadem upon your head, and proclaim you King. Doroſa receiving him in his arms, My lord (quoth he) as for the crown of Aragon ſeeing it is allotted me by fate, I will not any wayes refuſe, bowing to you by the laſt of a Prince, that Donvallo was never ſo cruel, but Doroſa will ever ſhow himſelf as kinde. The King by

theſe

these speeches fully understanding what they were, came again, and with exceeding content received him in his arms; and while the King was thus embracing Doroka, Pleudippo and the marques greeted each other with such an extasie of joy that they were not able to speak.

Now these tydings being carried unto the Queen, she surpassing them in all in content issued out of her chamber, and coming to her nephews with the tears of joy distilling from her eyes, embraced them severally in her arms, bestowing many of her friendly kisses upon their Princely cheeks. This done, Flermia in the depth of her souls content, with a most courtly and kinde behaviour, came and saluted her brethren. And Lucibella equalling the rest in joy for their so happy arrival, and having her inward soul already inveigled upon the perfections of Pleudippo, approached toward him, and he having his sences almost benummed with beholding his sun-bright paragon, received her in his arms with a sweet encounter of high delicacie; their arms locking together their lips, and from their lips interchangeably breathing their souls into each others bosome. But now whilest these Princes were lul'd in their new-augmenting delight, word was brought unto the King, that the Muscovian duke had a new supply of twenty thousand souldiers approaching nigh, to joyn with his former forces. And while the poste was yet speaking, a herald entred the hall which the King seeing, he with the Princes and the rest of the nobles, seated themselves to hear the effect of this unexpected message. They being set, the herald with a stern countenance uttered these speeches: King of Polonia, the grand Duke and mighty Doroka sendeth thee this word; that thou immediately send them those ladies for whom they maintain the wars, or else within three dayes to joyn with them again in battel; both which if thou deny, they solemnly protest to send for such innumerable multitudes of new supplies, that all the ground in Polonia shall not be sufficient to contain their troops; more-

(over)

(quoth he) let me hear thine anſwer, that I may certifie them that ſent me of your intent. The King having well regarded his ſpeeches, being encouraged by the aid of his new come kinſman replied in this manner: Then know for the firſt I abſolutely deny; but as for the ſecond, we give them to underſtand we ſo little fear their threats, that we will not give them ſo long time to lye lurking in our country to annoy our ſubjects, therefore let them provide one day ſooner: Sure quoth the herald, the ſooner the better; why then quoth the King, let them expect us in the field within theſe two dayes at the farthest.

CHAP. XIII.

How Doroſa was crowned King of Aragon in Poloria; And how Feraro made his love known to Doroſa, who made his ſiſter acquainted with it, and her acceptance thereof: With the ſending meſſengers into Hungaria to treat about the mariage, and how Plendippo and Lucibella fell in love together.

When as the herald was departed, the ſun now hatening toward the meridian line, the King, Princes and nobles, all ſeated themſelves to dinner; which being ended Doroſa was by ſound of trumpets proclaimed King of Aragon, receiving homage of the marqueſs and all the Aragonian nobles there preſent. This finiſhed, Feraro feeling the heat of his conceived amours to augment, comming to Doroſa and taking him by the hand, he uttered theſe ſpeeches: Worthy King and my moſt loving companion what the eſſential cauſe of my comming hither hath been, I need not any further declare; in that the ſame is ſufficiently known unto your perſon, and ſeeing the lady is one whom you may not onely by brotherly ami-

ty admonish, but also by regal authority command, let me by our former friendship entreat you first to give her notice of my intent, and after to procure the means that I may freely impart my minde unto her self. Dorosa seeing Feraro thus impatient of delay, went immediately to his sister, whom after some perswasions and much private conference between themselves, he found so willing that they concluded to send Corulos, and with him two nobleman of Aragonia, in embassage; as well to treat of a marriage between Dorosa and Albina, as with Feraro and Flermia, and thereupon commanded them to be ready to depart the next morning with all expedition.

Thus the evining approaching, the lady Lucibella having already the characters of love stamped in her heart leaving all company went to her chamber, where being not able to evaporate the clouds which darkened her spirit, casting her self carelesly upon her bed, uttered these complaints:

Lucibella what unaccustomed tortures do thus torment thy soul? what vulture-gnawing thoughts molest thy minde? or what unsupportable passions alienate thy sences from their former content? Fond wench, gazing against the star of thy mishap, thou art faln into a laborinth of perplexity, and art there like to perish in the depth of thy despair. Alas Lucibella, as the strongest poison Antinomium being but chafed in the hand, pierceth at length to the heart; or the hearb Arras being holden betwixt the fingers, causeth forthwith a heat throughout all the body; so thy love being but entertained at the eye, doth suddainly and secretly dive down into thy breast, and so with an ocean of passions disturbeth all the sences. Oh deceitful fortune (mutabilior proteo) standing upon the weather-cock of time, constant in nothing but inconstancy: was it not sufficient that I was already terrified with the terrour of wars, disturbed with the tumultuous jars of these cursed enemies, and disquieted with the continual destruction and great slaughter of my countrymen and friends, but thou

must now inflict a new punishment worse then all of them? Unhappy Lucibella, why are thy destinies so unequal allotters of mishap, as to appoint thy youth which to others is an Autumn of joy, to this a tempestuous Winter of extream sorrow? Well, let this suffice, that thou art one whom fortune hath set on the variable points of her compass, and art onely born unto all mishap; like to prove to thy father and to Cattay, as Paris did to Priam and that unfortunate city; and with the Carthagenian Queen like to ruinate thy life, through the unspeakable passions of loves martyrdome: With this taking up her lute, she warbled out this sonnet.

DEep discontent deprives my joy,
Sad soul-sick thoughts augment annoy;
Endless despair is nurse of cares,
And woes impale my heart with fears;
Languishing still with sighes and tears.

Amid'st this chaos of my harms,
Cupid comes in with loves alarms:
In sorrowes scæne to act his part,
He blindely shoots his poysoned dart;
Piercing therewith my pensive heart.

Thou sea-born Queen command thy son,
For to release my martyrdome;
And I will sacrifice to thee,
Incense and turtle-doves with glee,
With branch of sweetest mirtle tree.

Cupid, thou Elvish petty-god,
Redress my sences thus at odd;
And I will offer at thy shrine,
Fair-spotted kids, and milk-white kine,
With hairs more soft then silken twine.

If in this fute I nought prevail,
Let equal passions him assail:
That fettered fast in fancies chain,
We may assuage each others pain:
And both our hearts in one remain.

This madrigal being ended, Lucibella (intending though she could not satisfie her self with present hope of the fruition of Pleudippo's person, yet to glut her eyes with gazing upon the excellency of his supernatural perfections) came forth of her chamber to consume the rest of the evening in conference with these renowned Princes, and in some sweet parley with Flermia and the rest of her ladies.

CHAP. XIV.

How Pleudippo being in an extasie of love, went with Cosmedril into the Muscovians camp; and how by their means the Muscovians and Tartarians slew one another, and Pleudippo returned wounded to the court. Also how upon the comming of the King of Hungaria, Dorosa and Albina, Feraro and Flermia, Pleudippo and Lucibella, were all married on a day; With other things that endeth the History.

By that time the sun had descended toward the western world, bewing any longer light with his transcendent rayes to the oriental clime; every one taking a loving farewel of each other, they all departed into their several chambers: Where the noble spirited Pleudippo being entred, suddenly began to feel his heart drawn by the attractive vertue of

Luci-

Lucibellaes eyes, and having the pourtraicture more lively engraven in his minde, then any forme may be inſculp'd upon mettle or marble, being thus in his affectionate conceits, he ſeated himſelf upon the ſide of his bed: When he had ſate thus a good while, tormenting his love-ſick heart with diverſity of thoughts, and afflicting his thoughts with love, ſtill meditating upon his divine miſtreſs: at length he fully determined to act ſomething worthy of her favour and her fathers conſent, or elſe to cut the vital thread of his life.

In this determination, calling Coſmodril his page and arming themſelves, they two ſecretly in the ſilent of the night paſſed along the ſtreet until they came to a gate of the city which Pleudippo had formerly eſpied, that was oppoſite againſt the Muſcovians camp, where opening the ſame, they went ſilently along until they came into the enemies quarters, where they found the ſentinels ſleeping upon their earthen couches. Then with a quiet pace they paſſed along until they came to the grand Duke's tent, the entrance whereof they found guarded with ten men and a giant, the giant was faſt aſleep, but all the other were awake; whereupon they fell upon them in ſuch a furious manner, that at two blowes the furious Coſmodril taught five of them ſuch a bloudy letany, that they never after needed any weapons for the defence of their lives. The giant hearing this noiſe, ſuddenly ſtarted out of his ſleep, but juſt as he was rouzing of himſelf, Pleudippo ſtroke him in ſuch ſort, that he parted both his helm and head by an equal diviſion. And while Coſmodril guarded the entrance, he going into the tent found the grand Duke with three of his cheifeſt nobles, who being amazed at this ſudden uproar, roſe ſuddenly out of their beds; but then did Pleudippo ſend to Charon to provide paſſage for their whole multitude, before they could receive their weapons. By this time was there ſuch a ſhouting of the nigheſt ſouldiers, that all the army betook them to their weapons: and

being amazed at this sudden alarm they all prest toward the backs tent upon Pleudippo and Cosmodril, who with such valour defended themselves, that they who came within their reach, had never after any need of the chyrurgion: and the out ranks not knowing the cause of these outcries, prest on so fast, thronging one another in such sort in the dark, that they all confusedly in heaps fell to war among themselves; so that within less then an hour by the valiancy of Pleudippo and Cosmodril, and by their own mangling and killing one another, there was full 20000 of them slain.

Now the Tartarians hearing the clattering of armour and ghastly cries among the Muscovians, all marched forward toward their camp, but approaching nigh, they perceived such an ocean of blood to overthrow the earth, that panted with extream fear they turned their backs and fled. Now as they were thus in their flight, the Muscovians new supply being marched within a mile of the main army, and hearing these alarms, drew forward with their troops and met with the Tartarians; but the Tartarians who were altogether amazed with fear, thinking that they had there been beset with their enemies, with all their force rushed upon them; so that in like manner between the Muscovians and Tartarians began another most sharp and cruel battel. Pleudippo and Cosmodril being very sore wounded and wearied, seing the Muscovians thus slaughtering one another in this diffused order, and perceiving the day to approach, got out from among them and departed towards the city.

Now the watchmen upon the walls, hearing these tumultuous jars, and a great hurly-burly in the Muscovian camp, they ran in all haste to the pallace, where forthwith they made known to the King Princes and nobles, what cruel discord they supposed was among their enemies; upon this every one arising from their beds, they all prepared themselves to arms: Now being assembled together, they

they miſſed Pleudippo and his page; Doroſa ſeeing them miſſing, preſently imagined that his brother thinking to gain the palm of victory, was with Coſmodril entred unawares into the enemies camp. This conceit being once in his brain, he ſuddenly rushed out of the city, commanding the marqueſs of Rino to follow after with the Aragonian army, for my minde giveth me (quoth he) that Pleudippo and his page have thus diſquieted the enemies camp, and how can it be, but that they muſt be in moſt extream danger of their lives? whereupon he preſently poſted away. He had not rode a full quarter of a mile, but he eſpied the valiant Pleudippo and his page retyring toward the city, ſo weary with their warlike endeavours, and faint with their exceeding ſpence of blood, that they could ſcarce ſtand on their legs. Doroſa ſeeing this, fearing their immediate death, he alighted off his horſe and help'd Pleudippo upon his back, he himſelf going by him on foot: And although he ſaw Pleudippo in this bodily hazard, yet he was offended that he made him not partaker with him in this perilous action: Brother (quoth he) thought you your ſelf ſo ſtrong, that you needed not our aid? or were you ſo curious that you ſcorned any ſhould be reputed as valiant as your ſelf? that you would deal ſo unkindely as not to accept of our company? Pleudippo being ſo faint that he could ſcarce ſpeak, requeſted his brother to hold himſelf content, in that his honour was already ſufficient; both by his obtained honour againſt the Turk, and his great valour ſhewed the day before againſt the Tartarians: alſo having now quoth he, obtained the diadem, and further, fully expect the ſpeedy fruition of your love, what need you thus ſtrictly ſtand upon any ſuch point? By this time they being come into the city, the King exceeding ſorry to ſee them thus fearfully martyred, ſending for his own chyrurgions, commanded them with all diligence to ſhew their greateſt ſkil upon his nephew and the giant. Doroſa all this time was muſing about the enemies diſtractions, and being per-

ſwaded

ſwaded he ſhould finde them out of order, iſſued forth with all the Aragonians, intending to ſet upon them unawares: but being come to the camp, they found nothing but their naked tents, the green fields flowing with an ocean of blood, and many thouſand dead carkaſſes floating in the ſame. Dorola and the reſt being condinced with heavineſs at this ghaſtly ſight, they all returned back unto the city, where having certified the King of this ſo great confuſion, the King, Dorola, Ferato, and the marquels of Rino, went all together into Pleudippo's chamber, where they found the chyrurgion ſearching his wounds; which although they were found very dangerous, yet were not mortal; which the King hearing, cauſed great triumphs to be made, and other ſignes of joy for this ſo fortunate an end of theſe ſo dreadful wars.

Then comming to Pleudippo, dear couſen (quoth he) wherewith ſhall we be able to requite your deſert? all our whole dominions cannot be ſufficient guerdon for the ſame. Good uncle (quoth Pleudippo) the very kindeneſs of your ſpeeches is too great a reward for my ſimple deſert, therefore let this ſuffice, that until the latelt hour of my life, I will be always ready to adventure and hazard my ſelf in a far more dangerous deſigne, either in the defence of your Majeſties perſon or kingdome. Theſe ſpeeches being ended, they all departed his chamber, leaving Pleudippo to his chyrurgions care.

Now Phœbus with his reſplendant beams gracing the hemiſphere, the Queen, Lucibella and Hermia, comming out of their chambers and hearing of their enemies being vanquiſhed, by the onely valour of Pleudippo and his page, they rejoyced greatly at this long deſired event; but hearing on the other ſide in what danger of death he remained, the remembrance of the one hindred the joy of the other. Thus between weal and woe they went all three forthwith to Pleudippo's chamber to viſit him. No ſooner was Lucibella entred into his chamber, but a vermillion dye cove-

red

red his cheeks, which the chirurgion eſpying, conjectured by his outward change of countenance, his inward languiſhment. The Queen and Flermia being comforting Pleudippo, Lucibella calling the chyrurgion to the window, fell to queſtioning him of the eſtate of his patient; the chyrurgion ſtill noting that although the Queen and Flermia talked with him, yet his eyes onely fed upon the face and favour of Lucibella: ſurely madam (quoth he) although they are not mortal, yet I hold them very dangerous; and ſo much the more, in that I finde a languiſhing in the party: And herein (quoth he) if I take not my aym amiſs, if you do not as well play the phyſitian to his inward diſeaſe, as I the chyrurgion to his outward wounds, he will hardly eſcape with ſafety.

The Queen and Flermia ſeeing Pleudippo unwilling to anſwer to any of their demands, by reaſon of the anguiſh of his new dreſt wounds, went to the window to the chyrurgion; which Lucibella ſeeing, leaving them to their talk returned to Pleudippo, who fixing his eyes ſtedfaſtly upon her, lay ſtill not uttering one word. Lucibella with many tears diſtilling from her eyes, taking him by the hand, and ſtraining the ſame tenderly in her own, ſtanding mute a long time, at length began in this manner: Sweet conſen (quoth ſhe) what meant you thus to hazard your life among this unruly multitude, to purchaſe our happineſs? how can we unworthy ladies yeild ſufficient recompence for our obtained ſafety? or with what kindneſs can we requite ſo great deſert? dear conſen cheer up your ſelf, and let this breed your content; though we cannot counterbail your coſt, that we (eſpecially I for my part) to the uttermoſt of my power, will be ever ready to requite this your dear atchieved conqueſt.

Divine lady (quoth Pleudippo) the comfortable words of your vertuous ſelf, are ſufficient to raiſe me from death to life; ſeeing it hath pleaſed you thus gratefully to accept ſo ſmall a ſervice at his hands who is your bowed ſervant

until death, may I escape this danger, I shall not onely by your favour be encouraged to undertake far greater matters; but if I finish my dayes in any such attempted action, I shall rest contented with my death, dying in the service of such an exquisite creature. Nay good consen (quoth Lucibella) do not once speak of your untimely death, lest you add worse tortures then deaths torments to my troubled soul: Then stroaking her snow-white hand tenderly upon his pale cheeks, twining his amber-coloured locks with her lilly-like fingers; cheer up your self (quoth she) and let not any discontent encrease the raging of your deep and dangerous wounds; but think what may any way mitigate or asswage your pain, and you shall not fail in the enjoyment thereof: let I say, but Lucibella have the least knowledge how your minde is affected; who will not fail to visit you often, nor to hazard her own life to procure your content. With this the Queen and Flermia coming again to Pleudippo, they all with prayers for his health took their leaves and departed.

No sooner were they gone out of the chamber, but the chyrurgion with earnest oaths of future fidelity, so cunningly undermined him, as he wholly related unto him his faithful affection that he bare towards the Princess Lucibella. Whereupon the chyrurgion considering what good might ensue to Polonia by their happy conjunction, he so well plied his cure, and played the orator, that by the Princesses often repairing thither, and his care of his patient, within the space of thirty dayes he was not onely perfectly cured, but Lucibella and he were secretly betrothed together.

Now Pleudippo having recovered his former strength, frolik'd among the nobles in the court, and cherish'd himself in content, having obtained such happy success in his love. Feraro likewise resting there all this while in his conceived amorous happiness, between whom and Flermia was such a perfect league of amity, as hardly could either

of

of them endure the other out of ſight; and Doroſa contented himſelf with the joyful news the embaſſadours would bring him at their return: all of them reſting in a manner fully ſatisfied, expecting onely the day that ſhould crown their happineſs in the enjoyment of each other. One evening as they ſate at ſupper, a meſſenger certified them that the embaſſadours were returned, and with them came the King of Hungaria in perſon; and how he had brought with him his daughter the moſt beautiful Albina, and a great troop of his chiefeſt nobles, which by the next day at noon would be at court. Theſe tydings cauſed them all to ariſe early the next morning, to make preparation for the entertainment of this royal King of Hungaria, who with ſtrange ſhews being welcommed into the city, and many hearty and kinde gratulations paſſing on either parties, they all together came to the court, where after much rejoycing, a great and coſtly ſupper was provided, at which when all theſe lovers were ſet oppoſite againſt each other, their eyes rather fed their hearts then their mouths, each one feeding love with his ladies beauty.

Now ſupper being ended, and ſome further communication had between the three Kings it was concluded, that the third day following the mariages between Doroſa and Albina, with Feraro and Flermia, ſhould be ſolemnized. But in the mean time, the King of Poland pondering upon the matter, and perceiving the abſolute liking and great love between Pleudippo and Lucibella, he to make him equal with the reſt in happineſs, freely beſtowed her upon him for his wife, and afterwards cauſed him to be proclaimed heir apparent to his crown.

Thus after Himeneus rites were ſolemnly performed between theſe Jove-born martialiſts and the three excellenteſt Ladies of the world; when they had paſſed certain dayes in pleaſure together, with loving and brotherly embraces they ſolemly took their leaves and departed to their ſeveral kingdomes. Doroſa, Albina, and their attendants took their

way toward Aragon, where shortly after they arrived, and were joyfully received by their subjects: and after his coronation, he honourably gratified the marquess of Rino, and restored his loving friend Corillus to all the ancient honours pertaining to the noble family of his deceased father. The King of Hungaria also, with his renowned son Feraro, and the beautiful Flermia, travelled toward Hungaria, and were royally entertained by their loving subjects. Pleudippo and Lucibella remained in Polonia, where they were much honoured and beloved. And the giant Cosmodril being baptized, was at the request of Pleudippo made governour of a strong Castle standing upon the frontiers of Polonia, adjoyning to Muscovia. Thus courteous Reader, these Princes being in the height of their content; we will leave them with a general applause on all sides: and here conclude the second part of this our History.

FINIS.

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HOw Fragoſa King of Aragon fell ſick, and of his will and bequeſts to his three ſons, Donvallo, Doroſa, and Pleudippo; and to his lovely daughter Flermia. Fol. 1

How a day was appointed for the coronation of Donvallo; how the two other brothers were caried by their guardians to their houſes. Of Donvallo's wicked life; and of the hatred between Fallacia concubine to Donvallo, and Doroſa. 6

How Donvallo plotted with two of his guard, Bernaculus and Brandillo, to ſlay Doroſa; How Donvallo cauſed the Earl Plauto's head to be ſmitten off, and afterward ſent for his youngeſt brother Pleudippo from the marqueſs of Rino, and how Pleudippo was left floating on the ſea in a cockboat. 15

How Pleudippo was caſt on ſhore on the coaſt of Brittain, and what happened him there. 20

How Doroſa ſailing on the ſea, was taken by the Hungarians among the Mores; and what followed. 25

How Doroſa ſlew a wilde Bore, and what great honour and eſtimation he gained thereby: And what afterwards happened during his abode with the County. 29

How the great Turk craveth the beautiful Albina to wife; and being denied invadeth Hungaria. And how Doroſa amongſt others marched againſt him: And what ſtrange accidents happened in that battle. 33

How after the battle the King enquired who Doroſa was, and commanded him to be brought to him, appointing him to be lodged with his ſon Fetaro. Alſo how Albina the Kings daughter fell in love with Doroſa upon others commendations, and what afterwards happened. 41

How *Doroſa* and *Albina* continued in love each unto the other, and neither of them durſt attempt to diſcover it. And how the vertuous *Albina* was impriſoned through the falſe accuſation of *Mordeno* the diſloyal Duke of Potenna; And what after happened. 57

The Contents of the ſecond Part.

OF the ſorrow that was made by the Queen and her Ladies, when they heard of the impriſonment of the beautiful *Albina* and *Doroſa*; Alſo the Letters that *Albina* ſent to the falſe accuſer *Mordeno*, and to *Doroſa* being in the dungeon: With other things that happened. 69

How *Feraro* being in great diſcontent and grief for his ſiſter *Albina*, and his truſty and wel-beloved friend *Doroſa*, rode forth and met with a knight called *Corillus*, who was ſon to the Earl *Plauto*: And how he declared unto him that *Donvallo* had ſlain himſelf; and of the war that the Duke of Muſcovia made againſt Polonia for the love of fair *Flermia*; and of other accidents. 76

How *Feraro* plotted how *Doroſa* might eſcape out of priſon, and atchieved it. How he and *Doroſa* rode to *Corillus*, to whom upon *Corillus* ſurmiſe, *Doroſa* made himſelf known, and how they travelled toward Polonia. Alſo how *Doroſa* writ unto *Androgio* King of Hungaria in excuſe of fair *Albina* and himſelf. 81

How newes was brought the King of Hungaria of *Doroſa*'s eſcape; and while he called his counſel to conſult what was beſt to be done, the letter of *Doroſa* was delivered to his Majeſty, whereby he underſtood of *Doroſa*'s birth and parentage: And how the King ordained the accuſation ſhould be cleared by combate, whereupon *Mordeno* provided a mighty giant for his champion: With other things which happened. 88

How

How *Pleudippo* remaining with *Dorelio* King of Brittain, having heard of the victory obtained againſt the Turks by the proweſs of one *Doroſa*, betook himſelf to travel, leaving his ſtudy, determining to ſeek his brother through the world; And how in his journey, he releaſed *Aurilla* daughter to the duke of Brunſwick, from the giant *Coſmodril*, and won him for his ſlave: And how in requital the duke knighted him. 91

How *Pleudippo* and his page travelling together, heard of the combate that was to be fought to clear the Lady *Albina*, whereupon he travelled to ſee it. 99

How at the laſt hour of the day when the Princeſs *Albina* ſhould have been executed, *Pleudippo* came to the liſt, who was taken for *Doroſa* himſelf, and undertaking the combat, obtained the victory: How *Mordeno* Duke of Porenna was condemned to dye, who before he departed, confeſſed his treaſon. And how afterward *Pleudippo* acknowledged himſelf to be brother to *Doroſa*. 102

How King Androgio made Pleudippo duke of Porenna, and gave him all Mordeno's lands, offices and caſtles; and yet he deſired to travel in ſearch of his brother Doroſa: and how the King writ to Doroſa, and ſent it by him. The tokens Albina ſent to Doroſa, and how Pleudippo reſcued Doroſa, Feraro, and Corillus, from the Tartarians. 109

How after the conflict ended, and their enemies vanquiſhed, Doroſa gives Pleudippo unknown many thanks. Doroſa craveth his name, upon which they come to know one another. Pleudippo delivereth him King Androgio's letter, and Albinaes tokens, and what happened in their travels. 113

Of the great battel between the Tartarians and Polonians, and how by the means of Doroſa, Pleudippo, Feraro, Corillus, and Coſmodril, the Polonians obtained the victory. 118

How the King after the battel was ended, ſendeth for the five ſtrangers; who the next day went to the Court: How Pleudippo fell in love with Lucibella, and Feraro with Flermia: And how the marqueſs of Rino knew Corillus. 121

How

How the marqueſs of Rino would have crowned Doroſa King of Aragon in Polonia: The exceeding joy of Flermia when ſhe came to the knowledge of her brethren: And the Muſcovian Duke having freſh ſupplies, defied the Polonians. 123

How Doroſa was crowned King of Aragon in Polonia; And how Feraro made his love known to Doroſa, who made his ſiſter acquainted with it, and her acceptance thereof: With the ſending meſſengers into Hungaria to treat about the mariage, and how Pleudippo and Lucibella fell in love together. 125

How Pleudippo being in an extaſie of love, went with Coſmedril into the Muſcovians camp; and how by their means the Muſcovians and Tartarians ſlew one another, and Pleudippo returned wounded to the court. Alſo how upon the comming of the King of Hungaria, Doroſa and Albina, Feraro and Flermia, Pleudippo and Lucibella, were all married on a day; With other things that endeth the Hiſtory. 128

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FINIS.